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Thursday, May 1, 2025

OPS named National Showcase District again

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Otsego Public Schools has once again been recognized for its commitment to cultivating a safe, supportive learning environment for its students.

For the second straight year, OPS has been named a National Showcase District by the organization Capturing Kids' Hearts.

In addition, all five buildings in the district received National Showcase School designations.

For OPS superintendent Jeff Haase, the recognition from Capturing Kids' Hearts highlights the district's efforts to build strong student connection and school culture.

"Our district's focus on building strong relationships is the foundation of everything we do to create a positive, supportive environment where every student and staff member can thrive," Hasse said. "This award is a true reflection of the passion, dedication, and hard work demonstrated daily by our entire OPS team."

Psychotherapist Flip Flippen founded Capturing Kids' Hearts in Texas in 1990. His goal was to provide educators with the training and tools needed to better connect with students, as he believed building positive relationships was students was the key to a successful educational experience.

OPS's involvement with Capturing Kids' Hearts began in 2008-09. That's when former OPS superintendent Denny Patzer was contacted by a former student who was working for the organization.

The district sent a group of individuals—including board members, central office staff, administrators and teachers—to Texas for some initial training.

Dix Street Elementary School and Otsego Middle School were the first OPS buildings to receive recognition from Capturing Kids' Hearts. Both were named National Showcase Schools in 2019-20 and each has now received that distinction for six straight years.

"Because of the rigor of our evaluation process, the Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools award is both a high aspiration and an exemplary recognition of excellence," Capturing Kids' Hearts said in a release.

"We are proud to recognize the outstanding educators who have dedicated themselves to making a difference in the lives of our children. As we identify these schools and educators, please join us in celebrating the remarkable work they have accomplished."

Washington Street Elementary School has been a National Showcase School for the past five years, with Alamo Elementary School accomplishing the feat the past four years.

This is the second year Otsego High School has received this designation.

"The Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools District Award acknowledges Otsego's exceptional implementation of the Capturing Kids' Hearts Process, demonstrating a dedication to ensuring students and educators feel safe, connected and valued within the district," the district said in a release.

"We are incredibly proud of our educators, administrators, and staff whose unwavering commitment to Capturing Kids' Hearts has made this outstanding achievement possible."

Elementary students work on a project as part of the Capturing Kids' Hearts program. (Photo provided)

A Capturing Kids' Hearts representative speaks to an Otsego student. (Photo provided)

Otsego High School students are seen while participating in a Capturing Kids' Heart training session. (Photo provided)

A Capturing Kids' Heart representative leads a training session at OPS. (Photo provided)

Island City Fest returns as one-day event for 2025

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Island City Festival is returning to Plainwell this summer … albeit with some changes compared to last year's event.

Organizers announced on Sunday, April 27, that this year's Island City Festival will be a single day as opposed to a three-day affair like in 2024.

"This year, we're condensing everything into one jam-packed day filled with as much fun and excitement as possible," organizers said in a release.

Another change? When the festival is being held.

Whereas last year's Island City Fest took place from May 31 to June 2, this year's edition of the festival is slated for Saturday, July 26.

According to organizers, the reason for the later date is due to a construction project that will affect the traffic flow in Plainwell earlier in the summer.

"We moved the date because we were told there would be a major construction project on US-131 that would reroute traffic through the middle of town, making it impossible to close streets for our core events (during that time)," organizers said.

Also, there will be no carnival this year. This is due largely to issues organizers had with Family Fun Tyme, which provided the rides the past two years.

After requesting for more rides geared toward adults for last year's festival, organizers say they were assured that "we would not only have larger rides this year, but twice as many" compared to 2023.

That didn't happen, as festivalgoers were once again presented with rides that catered primarily to children.

"There will not be a carnival this year," organizers said. "After a few disappointing experiences with our previous provider, we chose to end that relationship during last year's event. We did reach out to other companies, but they were already booked."

Instead, organizers are working to put together a free Kid Zone "full of activities for kids" for families to enjoy.

This year's festival will see vendors return to Hicks Park.

Those interested in being a vendor this year can secure a spot beginning Saturday, May 3, at 9 a.m. To do so, visit www.islandcityfest.org.

"We're keeping the same system we used last year, as we received a lot of positive feedback from both vendors and attendees," organizers said. "Booths sold out last year, and we expect the same this year, so act quickly if you'd like to participate."

Organizers did note that they reserve the right to refuse booth purchases from individuals who have "previously exhibited rude or disrespectful behavior towards guests, other vendors or our team."

"Kindness and respect are expected from everyone involved," organizers said.

Organizers would also like to include as many local businesses as possible in the festival.

"If you own a business in Plainwell, we'd love to connect with you," organizers said. "Please reach out to us directly. We would love to support your business and have you be a part of the festival."

More details on the festival are expected in the coming weeks.

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Safe Harbor Gala acknowledges child abuse heroes

By Gari Voss

There was a full house at The Silo on Thurs., April 24, 2025, as the Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center that serves Allegan, Barry and Van Buren Counties held its 17th Annual Gala. People gathered to show support for the efforts of the Safe Harbor staff in meeting the needs of children who suffer from abuse and neglect. Photo: G. Voss

Detective Matt VanderPloeg of the Allegan County Sheriff Department was one of three recipients to receive the Ray Hoffman Child Advocate of the Year Award. The award is in memory of State Trooper Hoffman and given to individuals who demonstrate a passion for addressing abuse and neglect and supporting the children who have lost their childhood at the hands of others. Photo: Safe Harbor

The Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center held their 17th Annual Gala to spotlight the continuing needs in Allegan, Barry, and Van Buren Counties for assistance in helping children who suffer abuse and neglect. Executive Director Lori Antkoviak stressed the ongoing support given to hundreds of children who have lost their childhood at the hands of abusive adults.

The Gala is a major fundraising event for the organization whose center is in Allegan while having satellite offices in Hastings and Hartford. The non-profit is nationally accredited as it provides hope and healing through a variety of services. Because of these services, children have a single point of contact rather than traveling between law enforcement agencies and the courts.

"Our services start with prevention then intervention and treatment," explained Antkoviak. "Our centralized, welcoming environment allows us to provide child friendly prevention education, forensic interviews, counseling, medical evaluations, victim advocacy, court advocacy (including our Court Appointed Special Advocates – CASA) and adult trainings. From a child's initial disclosure to their last day of counseling, Safe Harbor guides children through their journey of healing."

Safe Harbor must seek funding beyond the monies provided by numerous grants and government funding sources which are in a precarious position at this time. By raffling wonderful items such as golf outings, trips, sailing lessons for children, dinner for 6 or 8, and more, the funds begin to grow. The frosting on the cake is the Buttons for Bravery Auction.

The evening's Master of Ceremony was Allegan City Police Chief Jay Gibson. Guests mingled during Cocktails to the music provided by DJ John Kloska and were able to add raffle tickets to boxes in hope of winning a gift of their choice.

As dinner wound down, Antkoviak took the podium to acknowledge people in each county who had been inspirational in their efforts to support not only Safe Harbor, but other agencies in their counties that responded to the needs of children. The Ray Hoffman Child Advocate of the Year Award, in memory of the late Michigan State Trooper, was given to: Detective Matt VanderPloeg of the Allegan County Sheriff Department; Chris Elsworth, the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Barry County; and Maggie Hostetler, a Victim Advocate in Van Buren County.

Beyond those who have dedicated careers in agencies, Safe Harbor values their volunteers. The 2025 Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Michele TerAvest who has donated many hours assisting staff at the new facility.

The evening concluded with the Buttons for Bravery Auction led by Chad TerAvest. This activity allowed guests to donate funds in denominations that would support initial assessments, counseling sessions, medical examinations, etc.

Safe Harbor thanked its Gala Underwriting Sponsor Gun Lake Casino & Resort; Anchor Sponsors Middleville Engineered Solutions, Tibbitts Financial Consulting, MCM, Lakewood Construction, The Silo, Honor Credit Union, and Padagis, plus its Lighthouse Sponsor Coldwell Banker; Harbor Sponsor Clayton Schauss with Edward Jones; and Dessert Sponsor Four Roses.

City Council approves Hanse to replace Morgan

By Gari Voss

The April 28, 2925, meeting of the Allegan City Council brought some changes due to the resignation of Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tem Bill Morgan. Future road projects received an update, financial items were completed, and comments heard.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Appointment of Peter Hanse. The City Council voted to appoint Peter Hanse to complete the unfinished term of former council member Bill Morgan. The term is set to expire in November of 2026.

Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem. The Council voted to postpone the election to fill the Mayor Pro Tem position vacated by Bill Morgan's resignation due to health reasons until the next meeting when Councilmember Peter Hanse will be seated.

Allegan Police Chief Jay Gibson addressed the City Council to thank the community and the council for supporting the Allegan Police officers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The council was thanked for having the city budget discussions and for the council hearing the voices of the public in keeping the City Police.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS

Planning Commission. Councilmember Peter Westover reviewed the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes. The meeting opened a Public Hearing for a discussion of the new Zoning Ordinance. The discussion will continue at the May 2025 meeting. City Manager Dye announced to those present that there is a vacancy on the Planning Commission and applications are available in the office.

PUBLIC WORKS
Update on 2025/2026 Road Projects

Ely Street. City Manager Dye reported that MDOT opened bids on the Ely Street project that is funded using the Small Urban funding program. The program is capped at $385,000 or 80% of the construction costs, whichever is lower. The Low Bid was $447,031.29 with the Federal Share max at $357,625.03, and the city responsible for $89,406.26.

Airway Drive will be funded by Transportation Economic Development Funding (TEDF) that is currently capped at $375,000 or 80% of the construction costs, whichever is less. Currently, the city is paying Abonmarche Engineering for design ($55,000) and construction ($47,000) engineering. The plan is that the project will go out for bids during the fall/winter and construction will begin in the spring of 2026. The estimated cost is $787,936 with the TEDF (MDOT) grant paying $375,000, and the city paying $412,936.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Accounts Payable and Payroll. The request that the City Council approve accounts payable in the amount of $275,323.25 and payroll in the amount of $250,408.97 for a total disbursement of $525,732.22 was approved.

3rd quarter budget adjustments. The request to adopt Resolution 25.13 to approve FY2025 3rd quarter budget adjustments passed. The basic adjustments were made when the Council approved expenditures during previous meeting. Several adjustments were made for grants.

Review of the March 2025 Revenue & Expenditure report. Finance Director Tracy Stull felt that nothing was unusual. Westover asked about bonds. Stull did not know the exact figures but shared that details in prior budgets are on the website, or individuals can contact her.

Public Hearing for FY2026 Budget. The Public Hearing for the budget was scheduled for the May 12, 2025, Council meeting.

City Property Use. The request to approve amendments to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to specify that non-city employees are not allowed to use city property because of liability issues passed.

Council Goals. City Manager Dye opened the idea that the goal setting begun during the Strategic Planning Session on January 18, 2025, needs to be finalized. Council member Canales felt that the new members are now better informed and ready to make goal decisions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens thanked the council for keeping the city police while bringing up concerns about the condition of the city streets like Bridge Road that need repairs. A suggestion was made to consider turning non-traditional city expenditures like the Regent Theater and the Griswold Auditorium over to non-profits. Signs stating We Love Our Police are now available and can be purchased with a small donation. A thought was also made to have a millage for the City Police that would parallel the millage that funds the Allegan District Library.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Dye shared that city events are possible because of sponsorships for Bridgefest and Rollin' on the River. Currently, there are no sponsorships for Bridgefest. City Hall has sponsorship forms, and all levels of sponsorship will be welcome.

The rental inspection program needs to be revisited, but the discuss can only happen when the Council requests this to be placed on the agenda.

An idea had been brought to Dye to tie the funding of the police with the township. He cautioned that this takes discussion with the township.

Dye takes a vacation until May 6th, and Parker Johnson will be in charge.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

While sharing, Council Member Mike Zeter made the motion that all city council meetings, including budgeting sessions, be recorded. During the discussion, a suggestion was made to train volunteers or others to operate the equipment. The motion passed.

Council Member Will Walker asked that the discussion regarding the rental inspections be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Council Member Melanie Hooker thanked all who showed support for the city police and council. The next informal chat with council members will be at the Library May 14th from 6-8pm.

Perrigo – thanked Joel for coming up with options to find the $500,000 to meet the budget. She expressed her sadness that some people in the community were inappropriate when sharing their opinions. She stressed that there are no winners or losers in these discussions. There should be no pumping of fists. The council works to listen to ideas and come to the best decisions to create a city where people want to live and visit.

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Housing Summit examines needs and possibilities

By Gari Voss

The Allegan County Housing Summit, held on Friday, April 25, 2025, at the Griswold Auditorium in Allegan, afforded participants from cities, towns and townships the opportunity to examine the county's housing needs from different perspectives – Development and Construction, Zoning and Creating a Housing Climate, and Brownfield Redevelopment and TIF. The Summit was designed by Chris Kleinjans, the Community Impact Officer for the Allegan County Community Foundation and Mohamed Gabow, a CEDAM Fellow who is working with the City of Allegan.

Through extensive needs assessments supported by the Allegan County Community Foundation, it has been determined that approximately 6,200 units of housing are needed in the county. Kleinjans, and now Gabow, have been working at building a network of municipalities, support organizations, contractors, financial institutions, and governmental entities who are brave enough to move forward with housing projects that will reduce the deficits in the housing market.

John Bitley, the CEO of Sable Homes, jumped right in to explain how the cost of housing can make a contractor think twice before moving into a housing project. Contractors have been able to utilize MSHDA grants to cover some costs. Those funds do require that the project is new construction or requires substantial rehabilitation, the project must be for year round rental or for sale housing to lower income households, and the contractor must begin construction within three months from when the grant is awarded while securing a Certificate of Occupancy within 24 months after the grant agreement.

There are barriers to housing projects that begin with the cost of land. This may be one of the simpler barriers to cross, but there may be municipal zoning restrictions that slow progress. Then there is the cost of construction as materials have skyrocketed since COVID and do not show signs of coming down. Finally, where some funds require single-family housing, other state funds focus on rentals or multi-family housing. A positive in the Sable line is their May Apple Model that sits on a slab, thus reducing the cost of installing a basement.

Bitley took time to walk the audience through the steps of identifying property that can be developed and working with landowners or municipalities or state and local landbanks.

The conversation was then turned over to Brian Farkus, the director of Workforce Housing with Allen Edwin Homes. Even though Allen Edwin is the largest home builder in Michigan, they still face the same barriers of the smaller companies. Farkus focused on their initiative started eight years ago in Copper Bay to construct build-to-lease homes. The leased homes have been expanded to offering home for sales. The Workforce Housing Initiative began three years ago that concentrated on providing attainable housing solutions for middle-income earners in urban and rural settings.

Allen Edwin's Property Improved Lease Program (PILOT) agreement with municipalities such as Muskegon, MI has enabled them to construct affordable workforce housing. The rents are expected to range from $1,400 to $1,700, but one downside of this could be that these are rental rather personal ownership homes. An example of Allen Edwin's homes to buy is the housing development now under construction at 500 Delano St. in Allegan.

The presentation moved into zoning that could create a housing-ready climate. Zoning Administrator Lori Castello moved the participants through examples of zoning that could facilitate the construction of a housing development. This would pertain to rural and urban municipalities while being quite attainable.

The morning ended with a closer look at Brownfield Redevelopment and TIF. Samantha Mariuz, an Economic Development Manager with Flies & Vandenbrink, and Jared Lutz, a Project Manager with Michigan Growth Advisors, guided the audience through murky water with the intent of educating the group as to why and how the financial piece might be attained.

Brownfields have changed over the years from focusing on land that was tainted with blight or contamination during previous use to now including the reconstruction of older buildings and even assisting with new housing developments. What has not changed is that for a contractor and municipality to use these funds, there must be a Brownfield Commission and Brownfield Plan.

TIF, or Tax Increment Financing, is a public financing tool used to fund projects that support community development by diverting future property tax revenue increases from a specific district. The funds can be used to make infrastructure improvements, install public services, or construct private development. In addition, a TIF can be structured differently for each entity. By adjusting taxes today, construction can be accomplished, but it only defers the payment which will return to a normal rate.

As Summit participants from townships, towns and cities exited the summit, they had much to digest. The main reason many came was to gather information. Now they must determine how this information can relate to their jurisdictions. As each community moves forward, it must keep in mind what is in the best interest of the community being served.

Attendees and those who may have missed the Summit can contact Chris Kleinjans through the Allegan County Community Foundation (ACCF), 269.673.8344, and Mohamed Gabow through the City of Allegan, 269 673-5511. The goal is to find ways to create affordable housing across Allegan County. At this time, there is a shortage that makes it difficult for individuals and families to stay in the communities near where they work.

In 2023, the Allegan County Community Foundation (ACCF) decided to address the housing shortage. Utilizing the Multi-Agency Collaborative Council (MACC), Community Action of Allegan County (CAAC) and other organizations seeking safe housing for residents, ACCF started building a network of developers, government leaders, and advocates.

At this point, there is a concerted effort to expand senior housing, bring in new funding sources like affordable housing tax credits, and engage local lenders in supporting housing developments. Collaborative efforts like the Allegan County Housing Summit continue to build a network that not only addresses the housing shortage but puts into motion the building of affordable housing across the county.

The Allegan County Housing Initiative is a collaborative focus of ACCF with Community Action of Allegan County, OnPoint, United Way and Allegan County. With financial support from Perrigo, Haworth, Parker-Hannifin, Gun Lake Tribe, the Rotary Clubs of Allegan County and the Office of Rural Prosperity.

Lee Township prepares to unveil 2000 Time Capsule

By Gari Voss

Wednesday, April 23, 2025, a group of Lee Township residents gathered at the Lee Township Cemetery on 105th Avenue and 53rd Street to dig up the Lee Township Time Capsule that was filled and buried in 2000.

2000 Trustee Dan Ciokiewicz and 2000 Township Supervisor Sally Moore, two of the original group that collected articles, summoned a small crew to uncover the capsule. Ciokiewicz with the assistance of Mike Curley, the cemetery superintendent, dug under the plaque near the veteran's memorial in the middle of the cemetery to locate the 25 year old tube.

Sally Moore and Dan Ciokiewicz hold a copy of the South Haven Tribune that holds their pictures and reported on the burying of the Lee Township Time Capsule in 2000. Though the paper listing the contents has been misplaced, the exact contents will be revealed before the Lee Township meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025.

After seeking information from several who remember placing items in the capsule, it was discovered that the Table of Contents sheet had been misplaced. A couple pieces were remembered like a Pokemon card. Deb Laraway remembers putting in newspaper articles with the news of the day. Ciokiewicz and Moore will be as surprised as others when the contents are laid out on tables.

With the assistance of Scott Owen (previous supervisor), Lisa Galdikas (previous trustee), Dan Ciokiewicz (Dan's son), Rich Rawson (current supervisor), and Curley, the capsule was pulled from its hole. It will be carried to the Lee Township Hall and opened prior to the beginning of the Lee Township Meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 7pm.

On May 12, 2025, articles will be collected to place in the 2025 Lee Township Time Capsule that will be buried for the next 25 years.

Ciokiewicz stated, "Any business, organization or individual who would like to participate can included items in the new capsule. Some ideas would be photos of the building or anything pertaining to the business, a brief history, or information about employees, owners or members, a prediction for the future, or anything else imaginable."

What is important to remember is that the articles will be collected on May 12, 2025.

"I had a lot of fun putting the capsule together in 2000, and this time should be even more enjoyable," shared Ciokiewicz.

"I again thank the Lee Township Board of 2000 for allowing this to take place, and I thank the 2025 Lee Township Board for allowing the recovery and addition of the new time capsule to the cemetery," expressed Ciokiewicz. "Mark the calendar for May 12, 2025."

Rich Rawson, Lee Township Supervisor, Lisa Galdikas (previous trustee), Scott Owen (previous supervisor), young Dan Ciokiewicz (Dan's son), Sally Moore (previous supervisor), Mike Curley (cemetery superintendent), and Dan Ciokiewicz (previous trustee) look forward to opening the Lee Township Time Capsule that was filled and buried in 2000.

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Community Events

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Now-Fri., May 2, 2025: Allegan Spring Spruce Up
City residents may place leaves and brush at the street's edge for pick up.

Thurs., May 1, 2025, 7-8pm: Allegan Jaycees General Meeting
Join a group of young people 18-40 at the Sassy Olive

Fri., May 2 (5pm) – Sun., May 4, 2025 (11am): JCI Growth Academy
Camp Kidwell 39000 1st Ave. Bloomingdale

Sat., May 3, 2025, 11am-Noon: Civil War Gravestone Dedication
Oakwood Cemetery Western Ave. Allegan

Sat., May 3, 2025, 4-6pm: Beaded Succulent Plant Workshop
Tantrick Down Under 243 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sun., May 4, 2025, 7pm: The Wildwoods
Griswold Auditorium Hubbard St. Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Apr. 30, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
10am: Play Café. Caregivers can enjoy coffee while the little ones 0-7 yrs. have fun with Play-Doh.
4pm: Earth Science with Curious Kids Museum. Curious Kids will present Earth's geological past, natural disaster, extreme weather, environmental changes, various bodies of water and more with hands-on activities.

Wed., Apr. 30, 2025, 2-4pm: Friends on Wednesday – Diabetes
1st Presbyterian 200 Cutler St. Allegan
Learn about diabetes and have questions answered by specialist Mary Harnish and dietitian Jason Nicolai from Ascension Borgess Hospital. This is an opportunity to learn while enjoying conversation with others.

Thurs., May 1, 2025, 10:30am: Preschool Storytime
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
3-5 yr. olds can enjoy stories and activities.

Thurs., May 1, 2025, 11:30-1pm: CCW Connected Chamber Women's Luncheon
Pine Rest Postma Center 300 68th St. SE Bldg. C Grand Rapids
Members Only network with 100 Chamber ladies from West Michigan. Enjoy lunch, conversation & a presentation by Kristen Nitz. For more info & to register by Apr. 22nd at call 269.673.2479 or email director@alleganchamber.com.

Thurs., May 1, 2025, 7-8pm: Allegan Jaycees General Meeting
Join a group of young people 18-40, and help provide development opportunities to create a positive community. All are welcome. The Sassy Olive, 125 Locust St, Allegan

Fri., May 2, 2025, 6pm: Teen Nerf Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
Teens in grades 6-12 can register to nerf it out in the stacks or play other games. Register at 269 673-4625

Fri., May 2 (5pm) – Sun., May 4, 2025 (11am): JCI Growth Academy
Camp Kidwell 39000 1st Ave. Bloomingdale
Jaycees will gather to inspire participants to determine their personal motivation to be leaders and build leadership skills. Contact Kayleigh Gratz kvgratz@gmail.com

Sat., May 3, 2025, 11am: Teen & Adult Dungeons & Dragons
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
Ages 12 & up can learn and play D&D with those who can teach it. Register at 269 6773-4625.

Sat., May 3, 2025, 11am-Noon: Civil War Gravestone Dedication
Oakwood Cemetery Western Ave. Allegan
Honor 4 Union soldiers whose graves have been unmarked since their passing. All are welcome.

Sat., May 3, 2025, 4-6pm: Beaded Succulent Plant Workshop
Tantrick Down Under 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
EccentriC Garden will host a special workshop. Reserve a spot https://eccentricgarden.com/pages/class-landing .

Sun., May 4, 2025, 7pm: The Wildwoods
Griswold Auditorium Hubbard St. Allegan
The Wildwoods had been releasing incredibly attractive music saturated with fabulous fold and country motifs. They combine charming vocal lines with acoustic instruments making them true masters of their craft. Reserved seating. Purchase tickets on the Griswold Auditorium website.

Mon., May 5, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
6pm: Teen Game Night. Grades 6-12 can have an evening of games of all kinds with friends.
6pm: Plant & Puzzle Swap. All puzzles and plants are free to leave and take or swap. Full plants, cuttings, and seeds are welcome.

Mon., May 5, 2025, 11:30am: Cinco de Drinko at Tantrick's
Tantrick Brewing Company 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Stop in for lunch with tacos, margaritas and churros.

Mon., May 5, 2025, 4-8pm: Stitch Night at the Den
The Bear & Fox Yarn Den Brady St. Allegan
Drop in anytime for a casual evening of fun stitching. Bring your own project.

Tues., May 6, 2025: Library Fun
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. Help Me Grow Allegan will facilitate the stories and activities.
5:30pm: Gentle Yoga. Stacy Harbour will guide participants through gentle, full=body yoga. Register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., May 7, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
6pm: Wiggle Worms Play n' Learn. Ages 0-3 can enjoy an evening of stories, activities and songs.
6pm: Pintesting. Make a trending craft. Register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., May 7, 2025, 6-8pm: Tree of Heaven Workshop
Modales Winery 2128 62nd St. Fennville
Sponsored by the Allegan Conservation District. For additional information, contact Allegan.Admin@macd.org.

Thurs., May 8, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. Help Me Grow will lead 3-5 yr. olds in stories, activities and songs.
3:30pm: Teen Craftnoons: DIY Tie Dye. Grades 5-12 can drop in after school to create Tie-Dye bandanas and tote bags.

Fri., May 9, 2025, 7pm: Rock of Ages, Teen Edition
Sat., May 10th, 3pm & 7pm
Wayland Union Fine Arts Center 870 E Superior St. Wayland
The Wayland Union Theatriks will present Chris D'Arienzo's Rock of Ages. Seats can be reserved online https://wufactickets.ludus.com/index.php or purchased at the door #12 at the Wayland Union Fine Arts Center.

Sat., May 10, 2025, 9-11:30am: Bird Walk
Armintrout-Milbocker Preserve Thomas St. Allegan
Sponsored by the Allegan Conservation District. For additional information, contact Allegan.Admin@macd.org.

Sat., May 10, 2025, 10am: Pokemon Go Day
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. 269 673-4625
All ages can start at the library and travel around town catching Pokemon.

Sat., May 10, 2025, 2-8pm: ALEgan Craft Beer Fest
Allegan Fairgrounds 150 Fair Dr. Allegan
Enjoy local ales, great food and wonderful music. $35 pre-sale, $40 at the door. https://alegancraftbeerfest2025.rsvpify.com/?securityToken=1yLIVO3rauY3TwbcjaXP-b2IIf8oRR69R

Sun., May 11, 2025, 11:30am-4pm: Mother's Day Brunch
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Make a reservation for a special meal with mom. Make reservations at 269 512-7016.

Mon., May 12, 2025, 4-8pm: Stitch Night at the Den
The Bear & Fox Yarn Den Brady St. Allegan
Drop in anytime for a casual evening of fun stitching. Bring your own project.

Thurs., May 15, 2025, 4-6pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
The Grill House 1071 32nd St. Allegan
The Allegan Area Chamber and the Allegan Jaycees collaborate for fun networking.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Hamilton Christian Reformed Church / Love INC
3596 47th St. Hamilton, 269 751-2533

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 7-9 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

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www.alleganregent.com
269-673-2737

Friday, May 2 - Thursday, May 8
7pm Feature • $5 – Sat. & Sun. 2pm Matinee • $4
WEEKLY SPECIALS
All Specials Available
FLASHBACK FRIDAY! Sponsored by Tardy's Underground Comics & Collectibles
Clerks (1994) • May 30 @ 9:30pm • $5

Memorial Service for
Virginia A. Allen
(3/17/1932 - 1/27/2025)

Saturday, May 17, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.
@ Robinson Cemetery
Corner of M-40 Hwy and 20th Ave,
Gobles, MI 49055

Luncheon to follow
Trowbridge Township Hall, 913 32nd St,
Allegan, MI 49010

Safe Harbor
Children's Advocacy Center

SECOND ANNUAL CHEERS FOR CHILDREN - WINE SOCIAL HOSTED BY SAFE HARBOR CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER TO HELP VAN BUREN CHILDREN VICTIMS OF ABUSE

WHAT: Fundraiser for Van Buren County's children victims of abuse through a casual, 21+ wine social. Tickets are $35. Live music and appetizers. To register, please visit: www.safeharborcac.org/events/cheersforchildren.

WHEN: Thursday, May 8, 6 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Beeches Golf Course, South Haven, MI (Address 09601 68th St.)

WHO: All funds from this event stay in Van Buren County to support the children victims and prevention efforts in our county.

COST: $35/ticket earns you three drink tickets, heavy appetizers, live music of Mike Hatfield and being surrounded by like-minded people for an evening! To register, please visit: www.safeharborcac.org/events/cheersforchildren.

Cheers for Children - Wine Social is proudly sponsored by Whiteford Wealth Management, Inc., and Coldwell Banker Sneller Real Estate.

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About Safe Harbor:
Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center is a nationally accredited, nonprofit organization that provides children with hope and healing through an array of services at no cost to the victims or their families. From a child's initial disclosure to their last day of counseling, Safe Harbor guides children through their journey of healing.

Pleasure Riders take to trail for Wings and Wings Home

By Gari Voss

Allegan County Pleasure Riders (ACPR) will hit the trails through Silver Creek, 3900 134th Ave., Hamilton, to collect money for Wings of Hope and Wings Home on Saturday, May 17, 2025, beginning at 9am. Riders can register Friday between 7 and 8pm or Saturday from 8:30-11:30am. Riders must enter a trail by noon and complete the ride by 4pm.

This is an event that can be turned into a wonderful outing for families and friends, especially those who have had families or friends who have utilized the services of these wonderful organizations. Additional information can be found on the Allegan County Pleasure Riders' Facebook page.

The trails are well marked thanks to the Friends of the Allegan County Equestrian Trail System (FACETS) whose teams have been working all spring to clear trails. Their efforts were recently supplemented during the Poker Ride.

FACETS efforts were supplemented by ACPR members. The Pleasure Riders help annually with spring cleanup within the Silver Creek Park. On Saturday, April 19th, members went through all the campsites under the direction of Park Ranger Kim, cleaning firepits, trimming back brush within the sites, along with picking up and removing downed branches from over the winter and early spring, preparing the park for a great 2025 season. These volunteers have made it possible for riders to choose a long or short loop through the peaceful forest.

This is the 51st Annual Benefit Ride for equestrians who carry on the tradition of assisting a non-profit organization. A minimum donation of $30 for individuals and $40 for a family includes the Park's ride fee, a prize table ticket, T-shirt (1 for individuals and 2 for a family), and lunch. Liability forms must be signed by each rider, and riders under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

To enter the Grand Prize Drawings, a minimum of

$100 must be donated for an individual or family. For each additional $50, an individual or family will receive another ticket. There is no limit to additional tickets.

There are also tickets to use at the prize tables.

To celebrate the 51st Annual Ride, there will be an additional drawing for a collapsible folding wagon with tabletop. With an entry donation, riders will receive one special ticket for an individual or family.

Special gifts will be awarded to the three highest donation collectors, oldest adult rider, youngest boy and girl rider completing the ride on their own horse, and the individual who comes the furthest distance with their own horse. Plus, prizes will be awarded to those who find and turn in decorated horseshoes hidden on the trails.

All prizes will be presented at 4pm, and winners must be present.

Overnight camping can be requested at alleganconntryparks.org. Day parking is available. Any dog must be kept on a leash in camp, but not on the trails.

The Pleasure Riders wish to acknowledge those who contributed to the many prizes. The Grand Prize of the Circle Y Daisetta Saddle was donated by Millbrook Tack and the Sponsors. ACPR and Sponsors donated the Portable Garage Shelter, the Outdoor Patio Table, Umbrella & Chairs Set, and Backyard Fireplace with Spark Screen & Safety Ring. Items on the Prize Tables were donated by ACPR members, participants and local merchants. The lunch of hot dogs, chili, cheese, chips, and drink was donated by Neighbors House Bar & Grill, and will be served from noon to 3pm.

Dr. Carissa Coulson from Michigan Mixed Animal Veterinary Services will be available at the riders' expense.

There is no Rain Date. To obtain additional information, contact Pam at 616 490-1627.

Obituaries

James J. Sebright, 83

James J. Sebright, 83, peacefully passed away on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at his home in Plainwell, MI. Prior to passing, Vicki leaned in and whispered, "Jim, hold a spot for me." A precious moment and testament of their love for one another. While in her grief, Vicki did her best to incorporate Jim's vibrant sense of humor.

Jim was born on January 22, 1942 in Plainwell, Michigan, the son of Howard and Marion Sebright. He was raised in Wayland. Jim was an outdoorsman at heart. In his childhood, Jim enjoyed fishing, baseball, and running around town with his brothers and good buddy, Wayne, in what they called, "the jungle", by the bowling alley.

On October 21, 1967, James married Vicki Byron of Gobles. Jim and Vicki made their first home on Duck Lake, later moving to Allegan, where they resided for forty seven years before moving to Plainwell. Jim was a graduate of Wayland Union High School and Western Michigan University. Jim proudly served his country in the United States Army. After his years of service, Jim began his career at Rockwell International working for almost twenty five years as a Production Scheduler, while working part time at Gordon Funeral Residence. During this time, Jim returned to complete his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration at Western. Jim ended his career working for K-Line Industries in Holland.

Jim's dedication to his family didn't go unnoticed, as he was asked to be the best man in his son's wedding. He worked side by side with his son (and

James J. Sebright

daughter in law) in lawn care and renovating homes. Jim loved attending each of his granddaughter's sporting events and was a proud grandpa. Jim's sense of humor brought laughter to so many. He often missed (or chose to ignore) the ques when Vicki had heard enough. Jim had an incredibly strong work ethic and will always be known for his willingness to help family, and friends alike. Jim's woodworking skills brought a beautiful workmanship to their family home, which he loved caring for with all his energy. Jim took great pride in caring for his vegetable garden and Vicki's flower beds.

Jim left us with a special expression of love for his brother in laws, as they will forever have an irreplaceable bond. As Jim navigated the last years of his life with dementia, he was comforted by the selfless efforts of Vicki and Lisa's constant care, allowing him to remain in his home until his passing. He loved relaxing with his grand-dogs Reese and Clementine; they provided a sense of calming for him.

Surviving are his wife, Vicki, his daughter, Lisa, his son and daughter in law, Brad (Susie) Sebright, three beautiful granddaughters, Samantha, Olivia and Ellie, of whom he thought the world of. Jim was preceded in death by his beloved parents, Howard and Marion, and his two brothers, Barry and Curt, as well as, his father and mother in law, Edwin and Evelyn Byron.

As a family, we would like to extend our love and gratitude to the Mortensen Family for tenderly taking Jim home to camp one last time.

Cremation has taken place. The family will hold a private interment at Lindsley Cemetery. A celebration of life will follow at the Hartman Banquet Center in Allegan on Monday, May 5 from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. Memorials can be made to Centrica Care Navigators, 7100 Stadium Dr., Kalamazoo, 49009.

Theodore 'Ted' McLaughlin, 90

Ted was born on November 15, 1934 to Lloyd and Nina (Miner) McLaughlin of Hopkins, Michigan. At the age of 90, he passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 19, 2025 with his children and granddaughters by his side. He lived a life full of hard work from a young age. He was able to enjoy many years of traveling with his wife, Sally A. McLaughlin, whom he wed on September 28th, 1957. She preceded him in death five years ago, after 62 years of marriage. Surviving are their two children, Rosemary (Troy) McKenney of Allegan, and Brian (Nikki) McLaughlin of Hopkins, grandchildren; Brandon McKenney (Stacey Smith), Brittney (Travis) Bambacht, Brianna (Steven) Johnson, Alyssa McLaughlin, and Lindsey McLaughlin (Travis

Theodore 'Ted' McLaughlin

Straughn), and great grandchildren; Ryver, Jordyn, Kohen, Jovie, Eastyn and Brynn. Also surviving are his sister-in-law, Sandy Farrer, brother and sister-in-law, Dan (Mary Jo) Heckman, as well as many nieces, nephews and good friends. In honor of Ted and Sally's wonderful life, there will be a memorial celebration held on Saturday, May 31st, 2025 from 11am.-2pm. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2036 20th Street Allegan, MI 49010, welcoming all family and friends. Their family will lay them to rest with a private burial. In lieu of flowers we ask for donations to the Wings of Hope Hospice in Allegan, MI.

Messages of condolence may be posted at www.WinkelFuneralHome.com.

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LIVING WITH GRIEF

BY RONNIE EWING/ AFTERCARE SPECIALIST

LIVING WITH GRIEF, is a monthly column provided by GordenFuneral Residence. Each month LIVING WITH GRIEF will feature some helpful advice as you the reader move forward through your personal grieving process, or simply want to be educated to help those whom you may know have recently experienced a loss, or traumatic event.

I recently started pastoring a local church as an interim. It has been awesome, and a great fit for me as well. One Sunday one of the parishioners shared a mini talk on why he is, "Not Alone." It was very encouraging! And it got me thinking.. In a community either through faith, or a social setting whether we admit it or not. We are truly never alone. In grieving each person is different, unique. Some have triggers, some don't. Some suffer major depression, others do not. Reason being, I would say it is because we are all strong in areas others are not. But, put us in a community and watch it bring out harmony and unity. A great equation that leads to healing, as we work together and continue, LIVING WITH GRIEF.

Gorden Funeral Residence

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Number of college administrators alarming

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

Many of you have read my rants concerning higher education. I believe the cost is outrageous and it certainly far outweighs the benefit most students receive.

One of the reasons costs have risen extensively over the past decade is that universities and colleges have added hundreds of new administrators to their payroll. Thus they have determined more administrators are needed despite college enrollment decreasing.

I can remember when I was in college, we had three administrators- a president, a provost and admissions director. Granted it was a small college, 1400 students, but compared to today's world we were beyond frugal.

College enrollment is decreasing, you didn't know. Yes, it is predicted, according to Forbes, that enrollment will fall by 15 percent in the next four years. That likely means several schools will close their doors.

But in the meantime, many schools have determined they need more administrators. For what, it is a mystery. Between 1976 and 2018, full-time administrators and other professionals employed by institutions of higher learning increased by 164% and 452% respectively. Compare that to increased student enrollment of 78% and increased faculty positions by 92%.

Essentially that means faculty and student enrollment is on par, but administrative hirings have increased substantially. Some schools reportedly have more full-time administrators than students. To name a few one only must look at Duke, University of California at San Diego and the California Institute of Technology. Each has several more administrators than actual full-time students on campus.

Looking at individual schools the numbers are even more striking. A recent report showed the top 50 schools have 1 faculty per 11 students whereas the same report shows the same institutions have 1 non-faculty per 4 students. I'm sorry those statistics should be switched. No way should there be more administrators than faculty.

I can't imagine what purpose these administrators serve and why in the world would there be more of them than students. The aforementioned numbers don't even include the myriad of consultants and contractors that are hired by admissions offices to promote the schools and boost enrollments.

Forbes claims the explosion of administrators has occurred because of more government regulations and the natural tendency of administrators to solve most problems by hiring more administrators.

They also claim the explosion would never have happened without the growing availability of federal aid and student loans. Instead of pouring the additional monies in to more programs for students or adding more professors, institutions decided the best route was to hire more and more administrators.

Forbes concluded, "With no market or regulatory forces to contain the reckless spending behavior of colleges and universities, school presidents have focused on fundraising, not good management."

It will be interesting to see with the decreasing enrollment projections at most schools of higher learning (we are already experiencing it in Michigan} how they will handle the administrative bloat. Will they begin to lay them off, or will they risk closing their doors? I don't want to see anyone lose their job, but in this environment, something has to give.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

If there is anything good to be said about doing mindless work such as blowing leaves out of the ground cover, it is that I allow my brain to wander off and play. When it comes back and we reengage, I discover it has some interesting adventures to share. The other day was a good example: I started thinking about hood ornaments on cars.

If you are an Old of a certain age, or a fan of vintage autos, you will remember hood ornaments. Originally, they served a purpose as the radiator cap, but they were designed and built to add more beauty to the vehicle. In time, they became more elaborate. For a few decades they were also a convenient place to hold a canvas bag full of water, always ready to be poured into an over-heating radiator.

Then, when canvas bags were no longer essential for the cooling system, and the radiator cap was moved under the hood, they had far less purpose, but for a while the ornaments continued. Each manufacturer had their own design. Jaguar had a big cat ready to pounce; Rolls Royce had their flying lady, and so on. They were a bit whimsy, but in time they disappeared, only to be replaced by a small metallic emblem on the hood.

In short, automobile hood ornaments were demoted to what might be called "useless beauty." That happened to other decorations as well. Remember how the Buick had vent holes in the fenders that were connected to the exhaust system. Long after the exhaust went through the tail pipe, Buick continued this traditional symbol.

Look for it, and you can find what some would call useless beauty in many places. If you have ever visited San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, you will come across hundreds of centuries old wooden doors. Doors are functional, which means they are used to keep things either in or out of the house. Many of these old doors are magnificently carved, and carefully preserved as objects of beauty that some might consider "useless." Why bother with the extra expense and work of a carved door? Fortunately, when SMA became a World Heritage Site, the city ordered the doors to be preserved.

Or look at some of the pictures of the entrances to the subways of Paris - the Metropolitan. Some are more than a century old and are beautifully crafted iron signs in the Art Nouveau and Art Deco styles. They add a bit of beauty to the streetscape. Compare their beauty to the dull subway signs in Chicago, New York, and elsewhere. To be sure, the new styles convey the same message, but which is more appealing to the eye? Or is it merely 'useless beauty?'

There are many other such example, and together they prove that beauty is never useless. You and I spend considerable money and effort to plant and maintain a flower garden, but the blooms last for such a short time. Some would say we should stop doing it because it is too expensive. We should pave it over, put down grass seed, or plant vegetables instead. Yet, we do it because flowers add beauty to our life, and therein is their usefulness. We might cut a few steps, put them in a vase, and set them on our dining room table as a way of bringing beauty into our home.

Pat was a real stickler for adding "useless beauty" to almost everything. The dining room table had to be set so that everything on it was aligned and balanced, not strewn about like casually dealt playing cards. She did not see food as mere fuel for the body, but an opportunity to create something that looked beautiful, and presented artistically. It did not matter if we were having a 'fancy meal' or a salad, sardines, and vegetables from the garden. Presentation was as important as the taste.

We ate at the table, not over the sink, because the ambience added value to our lives. In turn it led to many hours long conversations. The ideas and suggestions went back and forth, and we both benefited.

In short, the few minutes of adding a bit of beauty to lunch made wonderful changes in our lives.

Four great philosophers: Elbert Hubbard, William Morris, John Ruskin, and Frank Lloyd Wright taught that form and function take on their greatest meaning when they result in beauty. Morris' great dictum was, "Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful."

This is vitally important because whatever surrounds us, in whatever form, influences our life. We become our environment. If we surround ourselves with ugliness or jutting juggernauts of junk, our heart and mind will imitate it. Our mind will cluttered and distracted, or we will become ugly and trashy people. Conversely, if we believe that there is elegance in simplicity, we get rid of the superfluous inventory.

This applies to people, as well. If we associate primarily with people whose vocabulary is primarily limited to four letter words, we will start talking like them. If we associate with people who have chosen to exclude vulgarity, we become like them, and we influence others.

Above all, if we surround ourselves with anger, hatred, bigotry, prejudice, meanness, pettiness or insulting words directed at others, we are influenced in that direction. In short order, we will become just like them. I think that also includes the sources of our entertainment, but above all our news. Before long, many of those who sought out the anger and ugliness will rally around a leader who promotes it, or join together with other like-minded individuals.

There is no such thing as "useless beauty." All of it is essential, but it requires attention to detail and, above all, a sense of inner awareness. Does it have form, function, and is it genuine? To answer those questions in the affirmative means having a heart as well as a brain. When those qualities come together, we have something memorable.

In the days leading up to Easter, I watched as a member of our parish worked on the design of our Easter morning bulletin. Basically, a bulletin is a collection of pages which contained all of the information: music, readings, the liturgy, etc. Instead, he spend hours selecting the right fonts, medieval drawings and artwork, and carefully placed them to create a memorable booklet. To be sure, it was something that very likely would only be used for a few hours, but it added to the beauty of the morning, and as inspiring.

Beauty, in whatever form, wherever it might be, is never 'useless beauty.'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAAC concerned Head Start may shut down

Dear Editor:

Throughout Michigan and in Allegan County, Head Start and Early Head Start are making a real difference. Community Action of Allegan County (CAAC) provides childcare and preschool services so that 337 children and their families have the chance to work, learn and grow. On Friday, April 11 our agency received word from the National Head Start Association that President Trump's FY26 budget proposal calls for the elimination of Head Start and Early Head Start Program(s).

While CAAC recognizes the elimination of funding for these critical programs is merely a proposal or blueprint and would need Congressional approval, the loss of Head Start and Early Head Start funding would be devastating to hundreds of local families and children.

CAAC's Early Education Services (EES) provide early learning to children at or below the federal poverty level, those experiencing homelessness, foster care or kinship care, and a significant percentage of children with disabilities. EES programs are locally controlled, driven by community needs assessments and designed to provide parents living in our community, the support they need to go to work or school … knowing their child is in a safe, nurturing educational environment. Seventy-five percent of the parents we currently serve are working or in job training.

Head Start and Early Head Start have a long history of bi-partisan support, because it strengthens our local economy. EES funding provides economic stability for 113 committed CAAC staff members and invests approximately $7M in local services. For every dollar of federal funding received, CAAC leverages an additional $7 in local dollars … creating $49M in economic impact to businesses and community partners.

The loss of these funds and these programs would have devastating consequences for children, families, and the economy across our community. These include:

For children, the loss of crucial early education and health services. The loss of early learning, healthy meals, vision, hearing, and developmental screenings, and dental care for 800,000 of our nation's most at-risk children … 377 children in Allegan County.

- For parents, an affordable childcare option that allows them to go to work or finish school. In addition, Head Start actively involves parents, assisting them with access to employment, continuing education, healthcare, and housing … which can break the multigenerational cycle of poverty.
- For our local economy, the loss of Head Start would result in job losses not just for educators and staff, but for parents who rely on the program to go to work. Without childcare, low-income families may need to quit their jobs to avoid incurring the excessive costs of private childcare.

If CAAC's 11 Head Start classrooms and 2 Early Head Start Centers were too close, it would affect more than just children. It would weaken our entire local economy. All Head Start dollars go back into the community through wages, supplies, and services needed by our programs and our staff. Again, every dollar invested in Head Start returns $7 in long-term benefits through better education, health, and employment outcomes.

As the Chair of Community Action of Allegan County's Board of Directors, I ask you to join our agency in protecting early education in our community. You too can TAKE ACTION to ensure these critical programs continue to support vulnerable children and families by contacting our local representatives.

Please call the U.S Capital Switchboard at (202) 224-3121, which will connect you to the correct Congressional or Senate office. A staff member will pick up the phone. If a staff member does not answer, please leave a message in support and protect funding for CAAC's Head Start and Early Head Start Program. protect funding for Head Start and Early Head Start Programs.

If you have additional questions or concerns regarding advocacy for CAAC's Early Education Programs or other services, please feel free to reach out to Lisa Evans, CAAC's Executive Director at levans@communityactoinallegan.org or by phone at (269) 673-5472 ext. 232. You may also visit our web-site at www.communityactionallegan.org for more information on the portfolio of our programs and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram for ongoing local events and programming information.

Thank you, Lisa Evans
Executive Director
Community Action of Allegan County

Food Alliance extends appreciation

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Allegan Food Alliance, I want to extend our appreciation to the community for making our second annual Allegan Seed Fair such a meaningful success.

Thanks to funding from the Allegan Conservation District, generous seed company sponsors and the hospitality of the Allegan District Library and the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, we were able to share hundreds of seed packets, host workshops, and gather as neighbors who care deeply about growing our own food—and growing stronger together.

We're not done. We still have more than 2,100 seed packets, many unique varieties, available to share, free of charge, through the Allegan Seed Library and Seed Bank at our office at 221 Suite B, Trowbridge Street. If you missed the fair, we invite you to stop by or reach out—we'd love to help you get growing.

We also want to acknowledge a challenge we're facing: due to ongoing construction in the city lot behind our office, our entrance—which has never been ADA-compliant—has become even more difficult to access. While we recognize that this is private property and part of a broader improvement plan, we're committed to making our space safe and welcoming for all.

If you have expertise in accessible design or know of a space that could serve as a temporary or permanent home for our work, we'd love to hear from you. Food access starts with physical access—and we believe that, together, Allegan can lead by example.

Warmly,
Mary Colborn
Executive Director, Allegan Food Alliance

Do the Local Thing

Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

ShopLocal

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St.
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e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Allegan County News. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in county; $55 per year in Michigan; $70 out of state; Foreign rates upon request. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010. Postal Publication No. 013-700. Postmaster: Send address corrections to The Allegan County News, P.O. Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010-0189.

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan, MI 49010-0189
(269) 673-5534
e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Union Enterprise. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in Allegan County. $55 in Michigan; $70 out of state. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010 and at additional mailing office Postal Publication No. 413600. Postmaster: Send address corrections to Union Enterprise, P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan MI 49010

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Letters to the Editor

Trump's Tariffs Make No Sense

Dear Editor:

I read the April 17 Mike's Musings titled "Give tariffs a chance, they may work." The editor seems to believe that, for tariffs to work, other countries will come to America and build their products here and hire our people, thus restoring the American Dream and saving the middle class. The editor stated that "tariffs make sense", "higher prices may come for a while" and "the price of gasoline should come down substantially."

A deeper dive into Trump's broad based tariffs is needed here. Trump on February 1 justified imposing tariffs on Mexico, Canada and China under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ("IEEPA") based on an "extraordinary threat" from illegal immigration and drug trafficking. Trump's legal problem here is that the IEEPA does not-explicitly grant tariff authority at all. The words "duty" or "tariff" appear nowhere in the statute. Congress has the sole power to regulate foreign commerce and impose tariffs. Further, since tariffs are paid by American

importers and generally passed on to consumers, tariffs are taxation without representation unless Congress authorizes them.

Trump later added the notion of rectifying trade deficits with other countries who "have been ripping us off" for decades. Trade deficits are really irrelevant. For example, Vietnam sells us many products, e.g. textiles, footwear, telephones, office machine parts, foods, etc. A poorer country, like Vietnam, cannot buy in quantities like we buy. To expect it to buy from us -as much as we buy from them makes no sense, sorry. There will always be trade deficits with other countries.

One should note that, not only are Trump's tariffs unlawful, there is. no sound policy behind them. Trump is making it up as he goes, day by day. It is chaotic and not worthy of a great nation. It is impossible for business people to plan in this environment.

According to Gas Buddy, if tariffs cause an economic slowdown (or recession, or worse depression) , gas prices will decline with other sectors of the economy. I guess this is a silver lining to the expected rise in inflation. Prices are down presently as the switch is made to Summer blends.

I urge readers to look up the Ben Stein scene in the 1986 movie titled "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" where Stein explains to his clueless students the disastrous effects of the 1930 SmootHawley Tariff Act which failed miserably and deepened the Great Depression. Tariffs did not raise revenue as represented. Trump's tariffs are many times more extreme. Trump and his advisors seem to be as clueless as Ben Stein's students.

Before JD Vance became Vice President, he gave an honest opinion regarding tariffs. Between 2016 and 2019, Vance argued on multiple occasions that American jobs sent overseas won't return as he opposed hyper protectionists (his words) and their trade policies. He said so many of these jobs that have disappeard just aren't coming back. In January 2017, he said these jobs haven't disappeared so much from globalization or from shipping them overseas. He said they have largely disappeared because of automation and because of new technological change. Vance said in February 2017 that if you are worried about America's economic interest, focus more on automation and education than trade protectionism. (You can look back to McKinley and 1900 or you can look forward.) Do broad based tariffs make sense? Not according to Vance when he was not handcuffed to Trump.

I urge readers to Google Professor Justin Wolfers' "Trump's tariffs will change your life" dated April 8, 2025. He is a professor of economics at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan and a Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. Wolfers says tariffs cause inflation. Higher prices will come with tariffs. The editor says maybe "for a while." Trump admits it will be years. To build and retool factories will take many years. Wolfers says the economy will contract and slow down. If you didn't like President Biden's economy, you are going to absolutely hate Trump's economy.

On March 27, 2025, the US Chamber of Commerce succinctly stated that to achieve our nation's growth goals, we need to sell more "Made in America" goods and services to the 95% of the world's consumers who live outside our borders. Broad based tariffs will hurt this more than they will help. The US Chamber of Commerce is being kind and generous. Trump's broad based tariffs make no sense.

Lastly, note that Trump omitted Russia from his tariffs.

Thank you,
R Hodgson

Allegan's priorities are misplaced

Dear Editor:

As a concerned citizen of Allegan, I'm alarmed by the continued pattern misplaced priorities and growing disconnect coming out of City Hall — particularly under the leadership of City Manager Joel Dye.

Let's look at the facts: 15.1% of Allegan residents live below the poverty line, and the median household income is just $42,261. These aren't just statistics — they represent hard-working families trying to survive in an economy that keeps demanding more from them. And yet, Mr. Dye takes home a salary of $123,451, nearly triple what the average Allegan family earns. It raises a fair question: Is he out of touch with what his taxpayer constituents can realistically afford?

Rather than offering responsible solutions or addressing budget inefficiencies, Joel Dye continues to push bonds — essentially asking voters to take on more debt to fix problems caused by poor financial planning. After his proposal to cut funding for the police department triggered widespread public outrage, he shifted course and stated, "If the community is adamant about retaining our police department, we could look at the possibility of a voter-approved millage." That's not leadership, it's manipulation. Essentially, "If you want to keep your police department, you better be ready to pay for it — again."

The truth is, they can't simply raise taxes — we're already nearing the legal limit of what can be levied against taxpayers. Any further increase would require voter approval through a bond. Yet, they treat this as if it's the standard, acceptable way to secure more funding. It's not. Relying on bonds as a go-to solution isn't responsible governance — it's a sign of poor planning and financial mismanagement.

Try asking voters if they're truly willing to take on debt to fund a walking bridge, park upgrades, downtown development projects, airport improvements, or an auditorium that continues to drain city resources while remaining largely inaccessible to the very taxpayers footing the bill. You'll get your answer quickly. Residents aren't asking for more beautification projects or costly developments — they're calling for fiscal responsibility, public safety, and access to essential services.

This is a wake-up call. City Council works for the people — not for the City Manager. There's power in numbers – please consider showing up to the City County meeting on April 28 to speak together and remind our leaders who they work for.

Are You Ready For Martial Law?

Dear Editor:

On January 20, 2025, President Trump issued an executive order (i.e. Proclamation 10886 of January 20, 2025 - Published Document: 2025-01948 (90 FR 8327) titled Declaring A National Emergency At The Southern Border Of The United States. It gave Defense Secretary Hegseth and Homeland Security Secretary Noem ninety (90) days to deliver a joint report on whether he should invoke the Insurrection Act of 1807 ("the Act").

The Act gives the president the authority to deploy the U.S. military on American soil and use it for civilian law enforcement. The Act is dangerously vague and in urgent need of reform. The Act is overbroad and ripe for abuse. It allows the president to suppress rebellion or domestic violence. It is the primary exception to the Posse Comitatus Act, which bars the military from participating in civilian law enforcement. Invocation will mean suspending protest rights. It will mean bypassing governors under the pretense of restoring "order". It will mean the end of democratic (small d) dissent.

Since returning to office, President Trump has purged the Pentagon of those soldiers and officers who swore an oath to the Constitution above all else.

On March 19th, VP Vance, DNI Director Gabbard, and Defense Secretary Hegseth visited our southern border for essentially a photo shoot. So why make a media spectacle of the visit? Laying the groundwork for invoking the Act. You can figure that by June or July 2025, the mantra will be "We had to act," or "We had no choice," or "The crisis was too big." We will be told that "Democratic" cities are under siege by "leftists", "radicals", "criminals," and "illegals." Expect to see troops in the streets of Chicago, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Los Angeles, New York, etc. Protestors will be arrested under "emergency provisions." Journalists will be detained. Social media accounts will disappear. The public will be told to shut up. And, shazam, it is all legal.

We saw federal agents brutalize peaceful protestors in Lafayette Square in June 2020. Did the military refuse? No. Did "the system" save us from January 6, family separation, a Muslim ban, ICE raids, CBP abuses, etc.? No. The system will grind on unchecked and be pretty much cruel. Nobody, especially churchgoers, should dare say that the USA is a "Christian" country. GOD's listening. Karma never forgets names and addresses.

As of this writing, the joint report has not been issued. It will undoubtedly be issued on April 20 - Easter Sunday. President Trump will say it is about protecting America, but really it is about enlarging and protecting his authority. This is how authoritarianism arrives, not with tanks first, but with memos, press events, and a scared public hoping somebody else will stop it. Sorry, nobody is coming. Congress needs to fear us more than they fear President Trump. Silence is exactly what President Trump is counting on right now. This is the moment. This is the time. The threat is here. By the time you read this letter, the joint report will have been issued recommending that the Act be invoked. Contact your Representative and Senators and demand an investigation and accountability. Congress is constitutionally a co-equal branch of government. Demand that the media report on the looming invocation of the Act.

Thank you
Vilius Kampas
Allegan

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Grateful for our local hospital

Dear Editor:

I read in this newspaper a couple of weeks ago that our local Hospital, Allegan General Hospital (now called Ascension Borgess) will be in the process of being acquired by a Hospital Group from Indiana. Sometimes we don't miss what we have until we no longer have it, which I hope is NOT going to be the case here. Within the past couple of weeks while walking my 60 pound , one-year-old Labrador puppy, I unexpectantly looked like the owner of Marmaduke flying through the air (cartoon for those of you who know whom I'm talking about). I fell to the ground hearing and feeling the crunching of ribs and my daughter took me to the emergency room at AGH. I was treated by a group of caring, knowledgeable, medical professionals and am now in the process of healing. I feel so grateful that we have this facility here in Allegan and hopefully it will be here for many years. Many, Many Thanks!

Eric R. Erickson
Allegan

Police chief appreciates support

Dear Editor:

YOUR police department wants you all to know how much we appreciated the way you gave us support these last couple of weeks. The outpouring of support was the silver lining for all of us. We had supporters that we didn't know that we even had. We always have taken pride in serving this community, but several of YOUR officers mentioned that they had even more pride in serving the community going forward! I had members of other departments say they had never seen anything like it. I would also like to thank all of the city council members for showing up to the discussions on the 22nd. Some of you attended more than one of the meetings. You all listened to the community, and the following day we were able to have the peace of mind knowing that we could still serve OUR community!

Jay Gibson
Chief of Police
Allegan City Police Department

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Young thespians delight Allegan audiences

By Gari Voss

Five One Act Plays spotlighting extremely talented young actors entertained audiences at the Griswold Auditorium on April 26th & 27th. The 11th Annual One Act Festival, Youth Edition had family members and friends riveted to the action on stage as each story unfolded. Photo: G. Voss

The Allegan Community Players rolled out the Red Carpet and Rick Moll interviewed the young thespians as they arrived. After a brief introduction and autograph signing, the actors entered the Griswold Auditorium to finish preparations to open The 11th Annual One Act Festival, Youth Edition on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

The audience were delighted as students accepting an alien into their classroom during The Intergalactic Student Exchange Program, and wondered where that tarantula may have scuttled off to in Class Pet, and ahhhhed when the youngest babies were wheeled into the nursery for The Smartest Baby in the World. After the intermission, a pair of dancing shoes provided a young dancer with a wonderful connection to her late mother in Time to Dance, and Gedi, the god of fire, needed oodles of persuading before he would agree to forgive humans for they slovenly ways regarding the care of the earth.

During intermission and following the performances, audience members could fill jars with dollars of any denomination as a way of voting for the best One Act. Truly, choosing the best was difficult because each of the five plays displayed extremely talented young actors.

A reminder from the Allegan Community Players… Auditions for the Theater in the Park will be May 12th and 13th, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Griswold Auditorium. The production will be at the new gazebo in Mahan Park on June 21 & 22, 2025. Auditions for The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe will be held June 16, 17, 23, and 24, 2025. Check the website for times. The production will be on September 26 & 27 at 7:00 p.m., 28 at 2:00 p.m. in the Griswold Auditorium.

A special thank you goes to all of the 2024-2025 season sponsors.

The Wildwoods support the Arts in Allegan

By G. Voss

The Wildwoods, a renown trio of acoustic instrumentalists/vocalists, will make a stop on their national tour to share a wonderful evening of folk/Americana music at the Griswold Auditorium, Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 7pm. The original lyrics and harmonies emerge from their roots in America's heartland. All proceeds will go to provide scholarships to area high school students who wish to attend summer arts camps. Tickets purchase specific seats and are available at thegriswoldallegan.com or at the door. Pictured: Chloe Gose, Andrew Vaggalis, and Noah Gose.

Poker Ride supports the work of FACETS

Poker Ride. Riders in Silver Creek Equestrian Park on Sat., Apr. 26th returned with poker chips and turned them in for cards. This player had a fair hand with a pair of kings, but with a couple more cards, she could turn the hand into 4 of a kind or a full house. After buying two cards, the next turned was another king for 3 of a kind, but alas, Lady Luck did not hold, and the fourth king was not to be found. All was in fun and a fundraiser for FACETS to continue clearing trails to ensure safe rides throughout the coming months. (Photo: G. Voss)

By Gari Voss

It was a crisp morning when 56 riders mounted their horses at Silver Creek Equestrian Park on Saturday, April 26, 2025. The object was to ride the trails and collect poker chips while enjoying the serenity of the forest. Upon returning, the chips were exchanged for cards. If a player did not like their original cards, they could purchase up to 3 more by paying $5 for each card.

The Park was filled with rigs and horses. Some riders were enjoying a whole weekend of camping and riding while others came for the day. Karen Woods, the player with a full house won $150 while Vicki LaLonde held a straight and received $75. Though only 2 poker hands received awards, addition money was given during the 50/50 Raffle, and prizes were chosen from the prize table.

After considering awards and park fees, the organizers felt that they would be able to add approximately $800 to the FACETS bank account. These funds are used to reimburse the volunteers for gas and equipment needed to maintain the 60 miles of equestrian trails that cross Allegan County through the Allegan Game Forest and surrounding areas.

The trails are divided into sections, and teams or individuals select a section that they clear in the spring then check at least once a month during the summer and into fall. Anyone wishing to sign up to volunteer can call 269 568-6303 or 269 506-3765.

Organizers Vicki Cassidy, Michele Arthur, and Jackie Metz gave a special thank you to UMECRA, the Upper Midwest Endurance and Competitive Rides Association, for their gift of $500 that helped pay for brush-hogging last fall. There were also thanks given to those who added to the gift table and all the riders who came out to participate in the Poker Ride.

As riders wandered back to campsites or off for another ride, newcomers and veterans spoke of doing this event again.

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EMS students learn the power of pediatric care

At the Allegan Tech Center, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program recently had a special group of visitors—students from the Head Start classroom housed on the same campus. This hands-on interaction, developed in partnership with Community Action of Allegan County, provided a unique and meaningful opportunity for both the EMS students and the young learners.

The visit was more than just a tour. The EMS students guided the preschoolers through various activities that introduced them to emergency care in an approachable and engaging way. The littles practiced how to bandage an arm injury, listened to their own heartbeats through a stethoscope, explored the inside of an ambulance, helped lift a training mannequin onto a backboard, and even experienced being strapped into a gurney—all with the help and encouragement of the EMS students.

While it was an exciting day for the preschoolers, it was also an incredibly valuable experience for the EMS students. In the field, pediatric calls are not common, thankfully, so many providers have limited experience working with younger patients." This visit allowed students to build confidence, develop communication skills, and gain an understanding of how to approach care for our youngest community members in a calm and compassionate way.

EMS instructor Jodie McLean emphasized the importance of this kind of training, stating, "This opportunity helps students practice the technical side of pediatric care, but more importantly, it teaches them how to build trust with young patients. That trust can make all the difference in an emergency."

Community Action's Early Education Services program, which includes Head Start, aims to support the whole child by fostering partnerships between families, schools, and the broader community. This collaboration is a prime example of how early education and career tech programs can work together to deepen learning for all ages.

By building these connections early, children become more comfortable with medical professionals and equipment they might encounter in an emergency situation. At the same time, EMS students gain experience that helps them become better prepared and more empathetic providers.

Fennville library friends hosting fundraiser

The Fennville Friends of the Library are hosting a fundraiser where they ask donors to "be a piece of the solution." People can help the Friend raise the final $50,000 needed to fund the Fennville District Library's parking lot construction by leaving money in the Parking Lot Project Jar at the library's circulation desk or by buying pieces for one or more of the three puzzles.

Pieces for the 1000-piece puzzle are $10 each, $50 per piece for the 500-piece puzzle, and $150 per piece for the 100-piece puzzle. Donors who purchase puzzle pieces will be given a thank you gift and invited to sign their name on the "We Love Our Donors" canvas, which the library will retain and display. When completed, the puzzles will display the concept art of the completed parking lot and upper porch.

Outside of the fundraiser, the library's parking lot renovation is partially funded through a grant provided by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. This renovation will make the parking lot friendlier to patrons in terms of safety and accessibility, as well as address environmental concerns and secure the future longevity of the parking lot. The new upper porch area that is to replace an unsafe driveway adjacent to the library's entrance will provide patrons with an outdoor space to relax, as well as a fresh new space for library programming.

If you would like to help the Fennville District Library fund the construction of the new parking lot, you can stop by the library to do so, or reach out for alternative methods via email at info@fennvillelibrary.org or phone at (269) 561-5050.

AHS grad recognized for academic excellence

Allegan Student Recognized for Academic Excellence at Albion College Honors Convocation

Bailey Stormzand received a Larry Steinhauer Award for Scholarship in Economics & Management and an Outstanding Economics & Management Major Award during Albion College's recent Honors Convocation. These awards are bestowed by faculty in each department and are intended to recognize their most promising and accomplished students.

Stormzand is majoring in finance with a concentration in the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management and is a member of the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program. Stormzand is a resident of Allegan and is a graduate of Allegan Senior High School.

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

This week's question is about tariffs and economy, and how it is impacting your life.

- Man at a gas station on M-89: "We have to have faith in our President that he knows what he is doing. God put him in office, and God doesn't make mistakes. So I say we have to have faith in him and trust him."

-Man, same location: "Well, it doesn't look good right now, but we've been through this before and came out ahead. But what do I know, huh?"

-Couple in front of the Blue Goose Café, Fennville: Woman: Rolled her eyes, "That's what everyone has been talking about all the time. I don't know. I'm worried about our Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid." Man with her: "It's going to get real rough." Woman again, "I'm worried about it for our kids."

-Woman in front of the Allegan Public Library: "()*&^% I can't believe what is going on. This guy is a madman! He's ruining everything. At the end of last year we had a growing economy, and now it looks like we are doing The Great Depression, Part II."

- Woman with her, "I give up. I just plain give up." Starts crying. "No matter what, I can't get ahead. And what he's doing to education, and everything else."

-Man in front of the Huntington Bank: "So far, I don't see much difference. I'm not buying a car and I drink Bud and Jack Daniels, and that's made right here in the USA, so maybe it won't be so bad, at least for me."

-Woman, same location: "I'm not so worried about what he's doing to the economy; it's the social programs that bother me. You know, food for those who rely on food banks, and education. Things like that."

-Man near Minnie's, "No big deal. We have to tighten our belts a bit, that's all. It's worth it to save our country from ruin. Trump's doing the right thing. He's no dummy, you know."

-Couple with him, Man: "I don't know if he's right or not. I guess we have to trust that he has some smart people helping him do the right thing. I just don't know." Woman: "Well, I don't trust him. Not now, anyway, Maybe if things turn out okay it'll be different."

-Woman, near the Allegan Post Office: "I have no idea. I can't figure things out anymore. Life used to be more simple, but now… I just don't know. I have no idea. Sorry."

-Man standing near her: "It's not just the economy. He is destroying everything. I'm sick about it. There's going to be nothing left worthwhile for our grandchildren."

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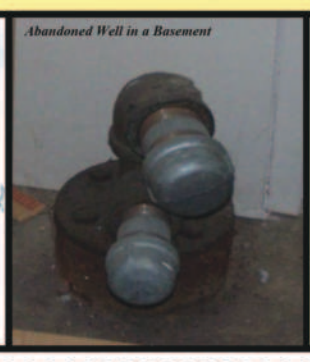
WHAT IS AN ABANDONED WELL?

Graphic: MDEQ


Abandoned Well in a Basement

A well which:

- Has its use permanently discontinued.
- Is in such disrepair that its continued use for obtaining groundwater is impractical.
- Has been left uncompleted.
- Is a threat to groundwater resources or may be a health or safety hazard.

Abandoned Wells
Got one?

The Allegan Wellhead Protection Program is looking for abandoned, unplugged wells.

Abandoned, unused, unplugged wells threaten groundwater resources and public health. Contaminants from the surface such as fertilizers, pesticides or other run off water, can easily move downward through the unsealed, abandoned well and enter the aquifer. These contaminants may end up in your drinking water well, your neighbors well or the local community drinking water wells.

The City of Allegan would like to identify any abandoned, unplugged wells in and around its wellhead protection zone and explore having them plugged. The zone extends east from the city of Allegan along the north side of M-222 east to 24th St.

If you are the owner of the abandoned, unplugged well and would like assistance in plugging the well. Please contact Allegan Water Utilities at 269-686-1117 or by emailing to Doug Sweeris at dsweeris@cityofallegan.org

DANGERS OF UNPLUGGED ABANDONED WELLS

Safety Hazard—Each year the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) receives reports of people, mostly children, falling into old wells. Injury or death may result.

Health Hazard—Abandoned wells act as conduits for contaminants to move from the surface into deeper aquifers. Drinking water contamination has been caused by abandoned wells.

Environmental Hazard—Deteriorated well casings or open, uncased boreholes allow movement of water between previously separated aquifers. This can degrade water quality. Abandoned wells have also been used for illegal dumping of waste.

Property owners are responsible for plugging abandoned wells on their property.

HOW TO LOCATE ABANDONED WELLS

- ✔ Search for water well drilling logs or old billing statements that show well depth and well location.
- ✔ Information can be found by contacting (a) the contractor who drilled or serviced the well, (b) the local health department, or (c) the MDEQ, Geological Survey Division in Lansing.
- ✔ If there are no records available for your well, look for the following:
  - Pipes sticking out of the ground.
  - Pipes sticking through walls or floors in the basement.
  - Electrical switch boxes out in the yard.
  - Cement pits in and under sheds.
  - Old crock, brick or stone structures
  - Windmills or old hand pumps
- ✔ Metal detectors may be used for locating buried wells:
  - First, locate where the old water line exited the home or building.
  - From this point, survey the ground with the metal detector moving away from the structure.
  - Use a marker to designate the location of any readings you get.
  - Well casings are typically 4 to 5 feet below grade and are located between 3 to 25 feet from your home.

Otsego High School bands shine at State Festival

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Nothing short of outstanding.

That's how Otsego High School band director Mitch Piersma described the OHS symphonic band's performance at the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association's State Band Festival on Wednesday, April 23.

And the judges agreed with that assessment.

The OHS symphonic band received straight 1's—the highest score possible—as well as 12 A+'s and three A's on its adjudication sheet.

The OHS concert band also received straight 1's for its performance.

Otsego hosted the State Festival this year.

"The State Festival was a positive experience for both our concert and symphonic bands," Piersma said. "Not only did both bands receive straight ones, but the adjudicators continued to mention throughout the next day we hosted how impressed they were with our bands."

Making the symphonic band's performance even more impressive was the fact that it performed A and AA literature despite being a Class B school.

"The students are such good musicians," Piersma said. "And they don't just play notes. They put musical feeling and emotion into their playing. They had been struggling with one of the songs, but pulled it together for an unforgettable performance."

The State Festival features bands that earned a first-division rating at the District Band Festival the previous month.

Each band performs two songs, with a clinician then coming on stage to give feedback.

"The expectations are higher for performance quality and the grading is stricter (at the State Festival)," Piersma said. "It is a high honor to achieve a First Division rating at State."

The OHS symphonic band requested and received permission to perform a third song. Its selections included "Bravura" by Double, "An Original Suite" by Gordon Jacob and "Overture to Colas Breugnon" by Kabalevsky.

The OHS concert band performed "Amparito Roca" by Texidor/arr. Fagan and "American Riversongs" by LaPlante.

"Both bands received very high praise and were told to keep doing what they were doing," Piersma said.

In addition to being proud of the way his bands performed, Piersma was also proud of the volunteers who pitched in to help the district host the festival

"Thanks to all the band parents who helped run this," he said. "We needed a lot of volunteers to make it work, and they answered the call, as usual. We appreciate all their work."

The OHS bands will perform a College Concert at the school's auditorium at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 1.

Otsego High School's symphonic band and concert band both received first-division rankings at the State Band Festival, which Otsego hosted on Wednesday, April 23, and Thursday, April 24.

PHS students included in KIA High School Area Show

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

KALAMAZOO—The Kalamazoo Institute of Arts held an opening reception for its 2025 High School Area Show on Friday, April 25.

Among the students featured in the show are seven from Plainwell High School.

Sadie Boven, Hannah Browneye, Oceana Dos Santos, Sarah Lagenour, Maxwell Maschke, Landon Pierce and Mara Jade Roberts all had pieces accepted into the juried show.

"We are so proud of our PHS artists," Plainwell Community Schools said in a release. "It is an outstanding achievement to have works accepted into this prestigious show."

The show opened to the public on Saturday, April 26, and will remain open through Sunday, May 25.

"The High School Area Show offers a unique opportunity for high school artists from Kalamazoo and surrounding counties to participate in a juried exhibition and display their work in a museum setting," the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts said in a release. "This program also provides students the chance to win scholarships and prizes.

"The KIA is proud to support emerging artistic talent and committed to increasing young people's access to arts and art education."

The show is open to high school students residing in Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties.

Among the Plainwell High School students whose artwork was included in the High School Area Show were (clockwise from top left) Hannah Browneye, Maxwell Maschke, Sarah Lagenour and Landon Pierce. (Photos provided)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

JGB Management LLC, doing business as Right Way Control Services, has been contracted by the City of Otsego to perform chemical brush control services via crack and crevice application along designated public areas throughout the city.

In doing so, they will be applying Ranger Pro Herbicide (Glyphosate), Tigris Flumioxazin 51 (Flumioxazin), and Alligare Prodiamine 65 (Prodiamine) between May 19, 2025 and May 23, 2025.

Please be advised not to enter treated areas until spray has dried.

Additional information may be requested by contacting applicators Garrett Farney at (616) 238-1615 or Brad Sanders at (616) 550-3673. Inquiries may also be sent via email to rwcontrolservices@gmail.com

Angela Cronen
City Clerk

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B SECTION

The Allegan County News & Union Enterprise

SPORTS

First Place 2012 NNA Better Newspaper Contest — Award-winning Newspaper — Best Sports Column

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Lingbeek sets Otsego strikeout mark

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WYOMING—Dominant.

That one word pretty much sums up Otsego softball standout Audrey Lingbeek's pitching performance against Wyoming on Thursday, April 24.

Lingbeek struck out 19 batters and didn't allow a hit in the opening game of the doubleheader, leading the Bulldogs to the 12-3 win.

That strikeout total set a new school record, breaking the previous mark of 17 held by Molly Sleeman (2010) and Caitlin Snow (2004).

Lingbeek struck out the first three batters she faced and didn't slow down, also striking out the side in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

The only non-strikeout outs came on a second-inning popup and a seventh-inning flyout.

Alyvia Farrell led the offensive charge for Otsego, going 4-for-5 with a double, a triple, three runs and four RBI. Mikayla Bateman went 3-for-4 with two RBI and Addy Lucas was 2-for-2 with two triples, two runs and three RBI.

Cassie Holland was nearly as dominant in the pitcher's circle in the second game, striking out 16 batters as the Bulldogs won 14-6.

Bateman (3-for-5 with a double, a run and seven RBI), Madi Dendel (2-for-5 with a run and an RBI) and Sydneigh Mosher (2-for-5) had multiple hits.

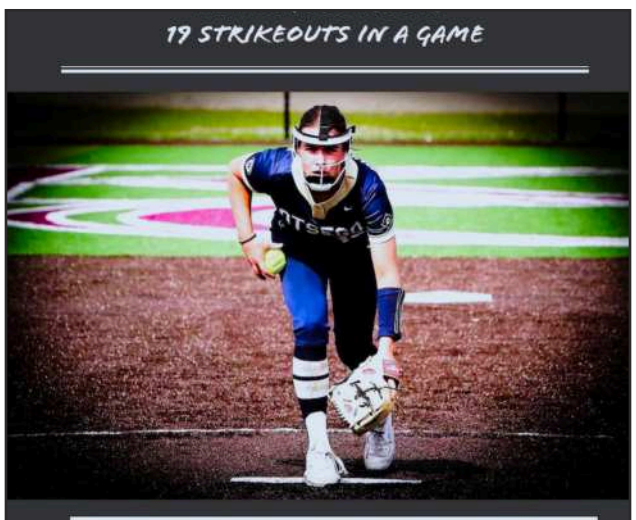
In a Wolverine Conference doubleheader on Tuesday, April 22, Otsego swept Sturgis 10-0 and 11-0.

Lingbeek threw a five-inning no-hitter in the first game, striking out 15. The only base runners came on hit batters.

Holland and Lingbeek each had two hits, including a home run for Lingbeek and a triple for Holland.

In the nightcap, Holland tossed a one-hit shutout with one walk and 10 strikeouts.

Farrell, Dendel and Sophia Pierce each had two hits to lead the Bulldog offense.



Plainwell picks up victories over Three Rivers, Paw Paw

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

THREE RIVERS—Shea Hodapp was a force to be reckoned with during Plainwell's Wolverine Conference clash with Three Rivers on Monday, April 28.

Plainwell's Emma Taylor races to the ball during the game against Paw Paw. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

In addition to scoring a pair of goals, Hodapp also picked up an assist in leading the Trojans to the 5-1 victory.

With the win, Plainwell moved to 6-2 overall and remained unbeaten in league play at 4-0.

While pleased with the outcome of the game, Plainwell coach Garry Snyder would like to see his team finish a higher percentage of its scoring opportunities.

"We haven't been finishing our chances lately and tonight was another example of that," he said. "We had nearly 50 scoring chances and came up short on most of them. Don't get me wrong. We played well and we were moving the ball.

"It's just that the shots were either hitting the post and bouncing out or were directly at the goalkeeper."

Part of the inability to finish, Snyder believes, stems from some injuries that forced some Plainwell players into roles they typically don't fill.

"We still have players with injuries, so needed to improvise a little," Snyder said.

Alayna Eldred, Lucy Benson and Emma Taylor each scored once for Plainwell. Caitlyn Ridgeway chipped in with three assists, while Emma Rayman had one assist.

In its conference showdown with Paw Paw on Wednesday, April 23, Plainwell emerged with the 2-0 win.

Not that it was an easy game.

"Paw Paw was a frustrating game," Snyder said. "They backed into the defensive third of the filed and we took 34 shots and scored on just two of them.

"Again, we have a few injuries, so that did not help our discipline in the attack."

Plainwell led 1-0 at halftime and added an insurance goal late in the second half.

"Paw Paw came out with more confidence and it showed," Snyder said. "It definitely was not our finest moment this season, but we won so we'll take it and move on."

Hodapp and Eldred accounted for the Plainwell goals, with Ridgeway chipping in with an assist.

Olivia Ranger was in goal and earned the shutout for the Trojans.

Allegan tennis beats Brandywine

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

NILES—The girls tennis teams from Allegan and Brandywine met for a SAC/Lakeland match on Monday, April 28, and the battles and No. 1 and No. 2 doubles were fierce.

And while the teams split those flights—Allegan's No. 2 team of Madison Cook/Ireland Dewey won 4-6, 7-6 (1), 6-1 and the No. 1 team of Taylor Fuller/Hanna Kievit lost 6-3, 6-7, 7-3—it was the Tigers who prevailed overall by a 5-3 score.

"Just like in years past, this match was very competitive," Allegan coach Damien Arthur said.

Also winning for Allegan were No. 1 singles Addy Fales (6-0, 6-0), No. 3 singles Kendall Halstead (6-4, ret.), No. 3 doubles Sophia Augustine/Emma Scheffler (6-4, 6-0) and No. 4 doubles Lilli Kelley/Shy Thompson (6-1, 7-5).

On Saturday, April 26, Allegan traveled to Grand Rapids for the seven-team Mustang Invitational at NorthPointe Christian. In addition to the seventh-ranked Tigers, the tourney also featured two other teams ranked in Division 4: No. 3 Traverse City St. Francis and No. 6 NorthPointe.

And despite missing four of its top 14 players, the Tigers tied Elk Rapids for the most matches won and ended up in fourth place.

NorthPointe won, followed by TC St. Francis and Elk Rapids.

No. 1 doubles Kievit/Fuller and No. 3 doubles Augustine/Scheffler had the best showing for the Tigers, winning their respective flights.

No. 4 doubles Kelley/Kaylee Haas were runner-up.

Two days before that, on Thursday, April 24, the Tigers swept league rival South Haven 8-0.

At singles, No. 1 Fales, No 2 Judith Ducurau and No. 4 Serenity Puente each won 6-0, 6-0, while No. 3 Halstead won 6-1, 6-1.

Fuller/Kievit took their No. 1 doubles match 6-0, 6-0. No. 2 Cook/Haas and No. 3 Augustine/Haley Mellon both dropped just one game, while No. 4 Kelley/Thompson won 6-3, 6-0.

Wayland upends two ranked D1 teams

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOLLAND—The Wayland softball team faced some tough competition at the Holland Invitational on Saturday, April 26.

And the Wildcats proved to be up for the challenge.

After dropping a 4-1 decision to Unity Christian—ranked fourth in Division 2—Wayland beat a pair of teams listed as honorable mention in the Division 1 rankings, besting Livonia Stevenson 15-4 and upending Grand Haven 11-5.

"The girls had an exceptional performance," Wayland coach Cheri Ritz said.

In the Livonia Stevenson game, Madi Ludema went 3-for-4 with two home runs and six RBI. Shelby VanHouten and Harmony Laker each had two hits, with Laker also picking up the win with a complete-game, three-hit effort.

Kaylee Lown had a single and a home run against Grand Haven, with Ludema, Laker and Rae Stallard each going for a single and a double. VanHouten singled twice.

Ludema picked up the win.

Against Unity Christian, Ludema struck out 11 but took the loss. Laker had two hits, while Ludema added a triple.

The previous day, the Wildcats swept Kalamazoo Christian in a non-league twin bill by scores of 7-3 and 16-4.

Laker was the offensive standout, going a combined 5-for-7 with a triple, two home runs and nine RBI. She also picked up the win in the nightcap.

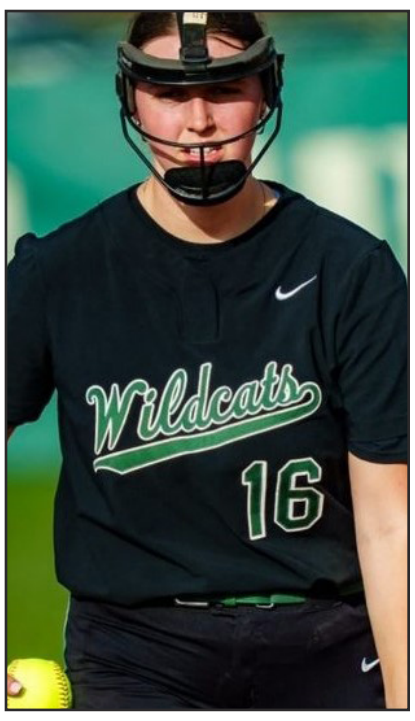
Ludema, VanHouten and Clara Dutkiewicz each had two hits in the opener, with VanHouten and Stallard each going 3-for-3 in the nightcap. Ludema, Lown and Izzy Johnson each had two hits in game two.

On Wednesday, April 23, Wayland opened OK Gold play by beating South Christian 12-2 and 16-1.

VanHouten was 4-for-4 in the first game, with Kennedy Lown going 3-for-3. Ludema and Kaylee Lown each had two hits.

Game two saw Kaylee Lown go 4-for-4 with a triple and four RBI. Ludema was 3-for-4 with a triple and six RBI, while Laker was 3-for-4 with a double.

VanHouten added a 2-for-3 effort that included three RBI.


Wayland's Harmony Laker is excelling in the pitcher's circle and at the plate.

Hamilton baseball earns win over Middleville

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON—A strong relief performance from Caleb Oosterink provided a boost for the Hamilton baseball team in its contest with Middleville on Thursday, April 24.

Oosterink worked three scoreless innings, allowing just one hit and striking out five, to collect the win as the Hawkeyes prevailed 12-5.

The win upped the Hawkeyes' record to 10-3.

Clay Blauwkamp led the Hamilton's offensive attack, going 3-for-4 with four RBI and a run. Owen Brown added a 2-for-4 showing with three runs and three RBI.

Saugatuck track teams shine at Kent City

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

KENT CITY—It was a strong showing for the Saugatuck track & field teams at the Kent City Invitational on Friday, April 25.

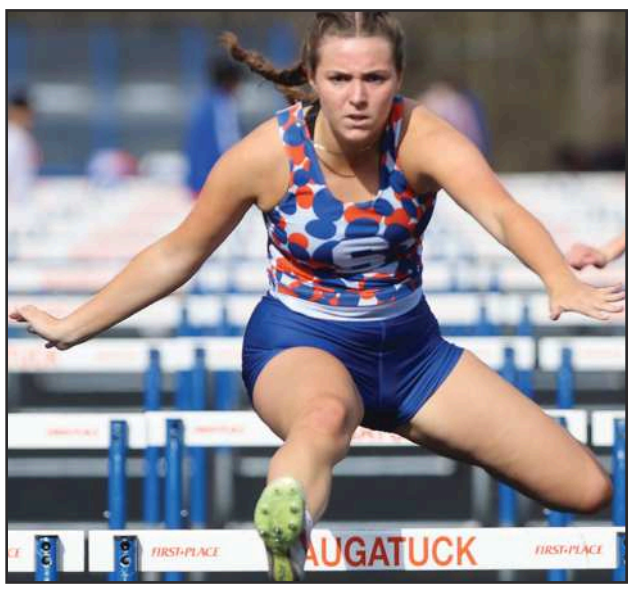
The Saugatuck girls took top honors in the seven-team Scarlet Division with 160 points. The Saugatuck, meanwhile, boys finished runner-up with 172 points, just 3.5 points behind winner Calvin Christian.

Martin was fifth in the girls standings with 103 points and sixth in the boys standings with 48 points.

One of the highlights of the day on the girls' side came from Niki McNeil in discus. With her throw of 130-6, McNeil not only won the event by 47 feet, but she also broke her own school record.

McNeil also won shot put at 30-10.

Mazie Robison joined McNeil with two event wins for the Saugatuck girls. In addition to taking the 100 dash at 13.64, she won the 110 hurdles at 15.84.


Saugatuck junior Mazie Robison clears a hurdle during a recent meet. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

Alina Martinson (1:01.95 in the 800) and Kamryn Sixberry (12:11.04 in the 3,200) accounted for Saugatuck's other individual-event wins. That duo also joined forces with Lyvia Curtis and Savannah VanDenBerg to win the 4x800 relay at 10:28.61.

Veyda Conley had the best showing for the Martin girls, taking second in both the 1,600 (5:28.18) and the 3,200 (12:11.39). Torryn Harris was second in the 400 at 1:04.33.

The Saugatuck boys won two events. Cass Stanberry took top honors in long jump at 19-10.5, while Nick Petrik finished first in the 400 at 54.39.

Stanberry was also second in 300 hurdles (44.28). A Saugatuck relay teams finished runner-up: the 4x100 team of Jaxon Green, Carter Miller, Stanberry and Max Page (45.82) and the 4x200 team of Morgan Davis, Pete Mitchell, Petrik and Page (1:39.63).

For Martin, Peyton Schuring-Harris was second in shot put at 45-0.

On Wednesday, April 23, Saugatuck hosted a SAC double dual with South Haven and Watervliet. And both Saugatuck squads moved to 4-0 with a pair of wins.

The Saugatuck girls beat Watervliet 92.67-31.33 and bested South Haven 92-41, while the Saugatuck boys had wins of 96-30 over Watervliet and 79-57 over South Haven.

Robison won the 100 (13.52) and the 110 hurdles (16.6) for the girls, while Sixberry took the top spot in the 800 (2:47.66) and the 1,600 (5:40.0).

Other winners for the Saugatuck girls were: Martinson in the 200 (28.37); McNeil in discus (126-0); and the 4x100 relay team of Robison, Leora Buss, Penny Grob and Martinson (54.65).

The Saugatuck boys shined the relays, winning three of four. Those victories came from: the 4x100 team of Green, Miller, Stanberry and Page at 46.59; the 4x200 team of Green, Mitchell, Page and Petrik at 1:39.01; and the 4x800 team of Grant Rehkopf, Sawyer Monroe, Jackson Bowman and Sammy Gamboa at 8:54.0.

Miller also won both shot put (39-9.75) and discus (129-6), while Stanberry won the 110 hurdles (17.2).

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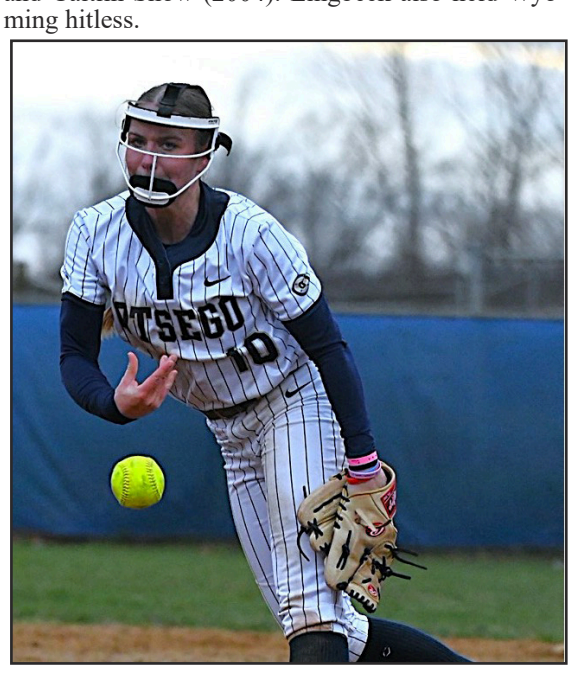
ATHLETE of the WEEK

Audrey Lingbeek
Otsego
Softball

Otsego junior softball standout Audrey Lingbeek wrote her name in the record book in the first game of a doubleheader against Wyoming on Thursday, April 24.

Lingbeek struck out 19 batters, breaking the old school record of 17 held by Molly Sleeman (2010) and Caitlin Snow (2004). Lingbeek also held Wyoming hitless.



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Bulldogs earn pair of mercy-rule-shortened triumphs

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

STURGIS—Peyton Dennany scored two goals and assisted on two others to help propel the Otsego girls soccer team to a 9-0 win over host Sturgis on Monday, April 28.

The game was stopped after the first half due to the mercy rule.

Olivia Witteveen added two goals, while Peyton Johnson scored one goal and assisted on two others.

"Our attackers had an enjoyable evening, with the Peytons—Dennany and Johnson—leading the way," Otsego coach Levi Butcher said. "We wanted to have a fast start, especially away from home, and I'd say we accomplished it."

A fast start, indeed.

Otsego scored six goals in the first 14 minutes and never looked back.

"(Scoring six goals that quickly) wasn't quite how we expected it would go, but we're happy that we put this one to bed pretty early," Butcher said.

Grace Gerst added a goal and an assist, while Maddie Ragan, Lexi Gross and Reagen Engbers had one goal each.

The win kept Otsego perfect in the Wolverine Conference at 4-0.

On Wednesday, April 23, the Bulldogs bested Edwardsburg 8-0 in another league affair.

It was a balanced offensive attack, as eight Bulldogs had either a goal or an assist.

Peyton Dennany again led the charge with two goals and two assists.

Gross, Witteveen, Sydney Timmons, Haylee Dennany, Alivia Kuiper and Ruby Gerst each scored once. Grace Gerst notched two assists.

"Edwardsburg came out a little slow, and we jumped on the opportunity with two early goals," Butcher said. "(The Eddies) battled throughout and defended tough in their box, clearing multiple shots out of the goal mouth. That tough defending got them in a bit of trouble at times, as they gave away two penalty kicks."

Gross and Haylee Dennany converted on those penalty kicks, with Haylee Dennany's ending the game via the mercy rule.

Defensively, Otsego held Edwardsburg without a shot on goal. Zoe Alkire was credited with the shutout in goal.

Maddie Ragan controls the ball for Otsego in the game with Edwardsburg. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Saugatuck posts 2-0 win over Fennville

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—After sitting out the previous game while nursing an injury, leading scorer Neave Rewa returned the lineup for the Saugatuck girls soccer team in its showdown with Fennville on Monday, April 28.

And Rewa made her presence felt, scoring a goal to help the Trailblazers secure the 2-0 victory over the Blackhawks.

The win was the third straight and fifth in sixth games for Saugatuck, which improved to 6-2 overall.

According to Saugatuck coach Jim Theis, the game shouldn't have been as close as it turned out to be.

"We had numerous opportunities—more than 20—to score, but we weren't connecting," he said. "Credit to Fennville for defending well in the box."

Ava Tringali joined Rewa as a goal scorer for the Trailblazers. She also assisted on Rewa's tally.

Saugatuck keeper Kennedy Gustafson stopped all five shots she faced to secure the shutout.

"Our defense was solid again, limiting any serious threats from the Fennville offense," Theis said.

Fennville coach Mark Gray praised the play of defender Nadia Perez, among others.

"Nadia played great on defense in the middle for us," Gray said. "Mayling Huynh and Christina Mendoza also played well in the midfield."

Saugatuck won by that same 2-0 score when it traveled to Delton on Friday, April 25.

With Rewa unable to suit up, Jordan Sanders and Ellery Penapento stepped up to lead the Saugatuck offense with one goal each.

Mallory Hass had an assist.

"We had several key players, including Neave, out of the game," Theis said. "So it was nice to see Jordan and Ellery come through for us. And our defense really limited Delton's opportunities.

Gustafson made eight saves during her stint in goal, with Julia Lowry also seeing time between the net and making two saves.

Saugatuck was credited with a forfeit win against Coloma on Wednesday, April 23.

Fennville, meanwhile, bested Black River 1-0 on Friday, April 25, after setting for a scoreless tie against Berrien Springs on Thursday, April 24.

Andy Balke provided the lone goal in the Black River game, scoring off a corner kick from Mendoza.

Abby Gonzalez finished with six saves for Fennville. Gonzalez was also in goal for the shutout against Berrien Springs.

Neave Rewa scored one of Saugatuck's goals in a win over Fennville. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

Otsego baseball drops twin bill with Wyoming

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

WYOMING—In the first game of a doubleheader against Wyoming on Thursday, April 24, the Otsego baseball team held a 7-3 edge in hits.

That, however, wasn't enough to produce a win, as the Bulldogs fell 4-1.

Otsego also lost the second game, 7-4.

The Bulldogs scored their lone run of the opener in the top of the seventh inning, as Landon Wrobleski singled to drive home Peyton Koenig.

Koenig finished the game 3-for-3, while Jaxon Ray, Ryan Cockerel and Kyle Holladay joined Wrobleski with a single.

The second game was knotted at 2-2 before Wyoming scored four times in the bottom of the third inning to take a lead it wouldn't relinquish.

Karl Hildebrand went 3-for-2 in the loss, with Holladay, Wrobleski and Brennan Perry each singling.

Matthew Jackson (two runs on two hits with two walks and four strikeouts in four innings) started and took the loss in the opener, while Nate Maisel (six runs on five hits with four walks and five strikeouts in three innings) started and took the loss in game two.

Two days earlier, Otsego picked up a pair of five-inning, mercy-rule-shortened wins over Sturgis in a Wolverine Conference twin bill. The Bulldogs took game won 10-0 and game two 11-0.

Hildebrand, Perry and Jaydon Watson each had two hits for Otsego in game one, including a triple for Hildebrand. Hildebrand also pitched the complete game, allowing one hit and striking out eight.

The Bulldogs only had four hits in game two, but took advantage of six walks and three errors to score twice in both the first and third innings and seven times in the fourth frame.

Ray, Hildebrand, Wrobleski and Perry accounted for the hits. Watson pitched all five innings, giving up three hits with five walks and five strikeouts.

Bulldogs pick up victory over Paw Paw

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PAW PAW—The Otsego girls tennis team edged past Paw Paw by a score of 5-3 on Monday, April 28, to improve to 2-1-2 in Wolverine Conference play.

The Bulldogs got singles wins from No. 2 Manu Marchi (6-1, 6-0), No. 3 Lydia Griffith (7-5, 6-1) and No. 4 Ellie Korringa (6-1, 6-2). Winnings at doubles for Otsego were No. 2 Stella Housman/Alie Bronson (7-6 (5), 6-0) and No. 3 Ava Ingold/Laney Sweet (6-4, 2-6, 6-0).

On Saturday, April 26, the Bulldogs participated in the Plainwell Quad and racked up 17 points to take first place.

Wayland was second with 14 points, followed by Plainwell (10) and Hastings (seven).

No. 1 singles Hailey Burd, No. 2 singles Marchi and No. 3 singles Korringa each went undefeated on the day for the Bulldogs.

Three days earlier, Otsego posted a 4-4 tie against league foe Vicksburg.

Otsego's wins came from No. 3 singles Lydia Griffin (6-4, 6-3), No. 4 singles Sara McCaw (6-0, 6-1), No. 3 doubles Ingold/Sweet (6-4, 4-6, 6-0) and No. 4 doubles Greta Roberts/Hope Stender (6-4, 6-4).

Members of the Otsego girls tennis team were all smiles after winning the Plainwell Quad. (Photo provided)

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Otsego track performs well at G.R. Elite Challenge

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRAND RAPIDS—The Grand Rapids Elite Challenge on Saturday, April 26, provided the Otsego track & field teams the opportunity to compete against some strong competition.

And the Bulldogs acquitted themselves well, as the girls placed sixth out of 26 teams with 41 points and the boys placed 11th out of 32 teams with 30 points.

As has been the case throughout the season, Emma Hoffman played the starring role for the Otsego girls.

After winning the 1,600 with a personal-record time of 4:54, Hoffman dominated in the 3,200 to win with a time of 10:24.06.

Hoffman also anchored the 4x800 team that placed third at 10:18.08. Taylor Mitchell, Skylar Mejeur and Madeline Goodwin joined Hoffman on that team.

Audrey Holmes had the next-best finish for the Otsego girls, placing second in shot put at 34-1.5.

Other top-10 finishes for the Bulldogs were: Madden Fitzpatrick in shot put (fifth at 33-0.5 and eighth in discus at 93-1); Isabella Bailey (seventh in discus at 94-1); Taylor Klimp (tied for 10th in pole vault at 7-0); and Skylar Brooks (tied for 10th in pole vault at 7-0).

For the Otsego boys, Caleb Wesseldyk had the best showing. That included a runner-up effort in the 3,200 at 9:45.47.

Wesseldyk was also ninth in the 1,600 (4:30.28) and anchored the third-place 4x800 relay team (8:30.87), with Jack Cook, Holton Mulherin and Matthew Long also on that team.

Alex Robbins also had a pair of 10-team performances, as he was fifth in shot put (49-2) and sixth in discus (151-9).

Also placing in the top 10 were: Micheal Spitzner in the 300 hurdles (fifth at 42.63); Cook in the 200 (sixth at 23.08); Ethan Simpson in long jump (eighth at 19-8.25); Carson Brooks in pole vault (ninth at 12-0); and the 4x200 relay team of Zeke Andrina, Roman Mitchell, Dylan Towne and Cook (eighth at 1:36.87).

Four days earlier, the Bulldogs squared off with Vicksburg and Edwardsburg in a Wolverine Conference double dual. And both Otsego teams finished the day 2-0.

The girls beat Vicksburg 86-51 and Edwardsburg 77-60, while the boys bested Vicksburg 102.5-34.5 and Edwardsburg 89-48.

Olivia Klimp had three individual-event wins for the Otsego girls, as she won long jump (15-4), the 100 hurdles (17.93) and the 300 hurdles (53.23).

Hoffman won the 1,600 (4"56/59) and the 3,200 (10:30.59), while Holmes (34-2.5 in shot put) and Fitzpatrick (91.5 in discus) also won individual events.

In the relays, the Bulldogs 4x400 team of Goodwin, Isabella MCCamman, Taylor Klimp and Olivia Klimp (4:28.45) and the 4x800 team of Hoffman, Taylor Mitchell, Brenna Yocum and Taylor Klimp (11:25.79) claimed victories.

Wesseldyk was part of three wins on the boys side: the 1,600 (4:31.16), the 3,200 (9:58.49) and the 4x800 relay with Mulherin, Trevor Meyer and Long (8:28.86).

The win in the 4x800 was part of a relay sweep for Otsego: the 4x100 team of Andrina, Towne, Mitchell and Simpson posted a 46.48; the 4x200 team of Andrina, Towne, Simpson and Kaleb Koestner posted a 1:36.96; and the 4x400 team of Towne, Long, Andrina and Cook posted a time of 3:42.11.

Other event wins for Otsego came from Robbins in the shot put (51-3.5) and discus (139-9.5); Carson Brooks in pole vault (13-0); Simpson in long jump (18-11); Spitzner in the 300 hurdles (43.12); and Cook in the 200 (22.96).

Otsego's Jack Cook competes in a relay. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Plainwell boys take second at Kent City, girls place third

Donovan Ryan placed second in the 1,600 for Plainwell at the Kent City Invitational. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

KENT CITY—Sawyer Lilly led the way for the Plainwell boys track & field team at the Kent City Invitational on Friday, April 25.

Lilly finished runner-up in both shot put and discus, with respective throws of 46-5.25 and 139-04.

That performance helped the Trojans place second in the six-team Silver Division with 165 points. Lansing Catholic won the title with 191.5 points.

The Plainwell girls amassed 162.5 points, putting the Trojans in third place behind winner Gladwin (217) and runner-up Lansing Catholic (201.5).

The Plainwell boys had two other second-place finishes in individual events: Trent Hansen in the 400 (51.89) and Donovan Ryan in the 1,600 (4:34.56).

Ryan was also part of the 4x800 team that placed second, joining Henry Cox, Gibson Pettit and Hiro Nguyen to post a time of 8:24.22.

Jadyn Erdody was the star for the Plainwell girls. In addition to placing second in shot put (34-1.5) and discus (122-2), she was fifth in the 110 hurdles (17.68) and the 300 hurdles (49.74).

Teammate Mai Nguyen was second in the 800 (2:30.89) and the 3,200 (12:27.59) and was part of the 4x800 relay team that was runner-up at 10:37.48. That relay team also included Molly Bruggink, Hannah Erlandson and Claire Vos.

In a Wolverine Conference double dual on Tuesday, April 22, the Plainwell girls came away with wins over Three Rivers (107-29) and Niles (90-42).

It was a split decision for the Plainwell boys, as they beat Niles 76-61 and fell to Three Rivers 99-38.

The Plainwell girls won 11 of the 17 events. That included victories by Erdody in the 100 hurdles (18.55), the 300 hurdles (50.42), shot put (32.4) and discus (125-1).

Alayna Ranney also won multiple events, taking first in the 200 (27.66) and the 400 (1:05.67).

Plainwell's 4x800 team of Bruggink, Erlandson, Vos and Nguyen posted a winning time of 11:07.27.

Lilly won discus at 141-10 for the Plainwell boys, while Loehn Luckett was second in pole vault at 11-9.

Hopkins baseball falls to Maroons

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOLLAND—Following a three-game series with OK Silver rival Calvin Christian earlier in the week, the Hopkins baseball team stepped out of league play to face Holland Christian on Friday, April 25.

And it appeared as if the Vikings would pick up the win, as they led 6-2 through six innings.

But Holland Christian rallied for five runs in the bottom of the seventh to secure the 7-6 victory in walk-off fashion.

Trent Smith and Cruz Hitzler each had two hits in the loss, with Smith also scoring two runs. Kellen Ford, Cody Benting, Michael Woollam and Wyatt Stedman each doubled.

The game was tied at 2-2 before Hopkins scored four times in the top of the third to go up 6-2.

On Wednesday, April 23, the Vikings traveled to Grandville to play Calvin Christian in a single game after the teams had split a doubleheader the previous day. This game was all Hopkins, as the Vikings won 10-0 in a five-inning, mercy-rule-shortened affair.

Already up 4-0, Hopkins plated six runs in the top of the fourth. Big hits in the frame included a two-run triple by Ford, a two-run single by Benting, an RBI single by Stedman and an RBI double by Hitzler.

Hitzler finished the game 3-for-3, while Ford and Stedman each had two hits.

Smith earned the win, going all five innings. He allowed two hits with one walk and six strikeouts.

In the twin bill the day before, Hopkins lost the first game to Calvin Christian 3-0, but bounced back to win the nightcap 3-1.

Christian Smigiel drove in all three runs for the Vikings in game two with a double and a single. He also picked up the win, going six innings and limiting Calvin to one run on three hits while striking out four.

In game one, Smigiel provided the lone extra-base hit for Hopkins with a triple. Ford, Benting and Landon Dandrow each added a single.

Ford pitched well in a losing cause, striking out 15 in 6.2 innings. He gave up three runs on three hits and three walks.

Hamilton track competes at relay meet

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

LOWELL—The Hamilton track teams finished first in total of three events at the seven-team Kathy Talus Memorial Invitational—a relay meet—on Saturday, April 26.

The Hamilton girls took top honors in shot put and discus, while the Hamilton boys placed first in the 4x200 relay.

In the team standings, the Hawkeyes were fifth on the boys side with 66 points—just four points behind Byron Center and Lowell for third place. The Hamilton girls were sixth with 31 points.

Sarah Kelley and Lauren VanOmmen starred for the Hamilton girls. Kelley was first in shot put (30-6.5) and fourth in discus (86-9), while VanOmmen was second in shot put (30-6) and third in discus (88-10).

The field events were scored as relays by combining each team's top two finishers.

For the Hamilton boys, the 4x200 team of AJ Friedriechsen, Zach Stoel, Gabriel Schrotenboer and Jeren Bronkhorst turned in a winning time of 1:31.29.

Bronkhorst and Jeren were also part of a runner-up effort in the spring medley relay (100-100-200-400), joining Nate Friday and Noel Vigil to post a 1:39.08.

The Hamilton boys were also third in the 4x800 relay (8:58.34 by Noah Hunderman, Noah Hernandez, Ben Dykstra and Abatu Dykstra) and the distance medley relay (21:11.03 by Abatu Dykstra, Schrotenboer, Ben Dykstra and Hernandez).

The distance medley relay consisted of a 1,200, an 800, a 1,600 and a 3,200.

On Thursday, April 24, the Hawkeyes took on Holland Christian in a dual meet. The Hamilton boys won 83-54, while the girls lost 114-23.

Hamilton Abatu Dykstra competes at a meet. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Fennville softball splits with River Valley

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

THREE OAKS—The Fennville softball team made the trek to Three Oaks to play River Valley in a doubleheader on Thursday, April 24.

The Blackhawks came home with a split.

Fennville lost game one 12-2 before bouncing back to take the nightcap 16-9.

Ariel Latchaw earned the win for the Blackhawks.

On Tuesday, April 22, Fennville swept Allegan in a SAC twin bill by scores of 16-0 and 16-1.

Pitcher Lily Achterhof held Allegan hitless in the opener, striking out five. Cailey Mokma and Amiyah Johnson led the Fennville with three hits each.

Autumn Zugel was the winning pitcher in game two, striking out two.

Achterhof, Mokma and Vivian Rasmussen finished with three hits each for Fennville.

Bulldogs win two conference golf jamborees

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GOBLES—It was a good week of Wolverine Conference competition for the Otsego boys golf team.

After winning the league jamboree at Orchard Hills in Niles on Monday, April 21, the Bulldogs won the second jamboree at Shamrock Hills on Wednesday, April 23, with a score of 150

Shamrock Hills is considered Otsego's home course.

Plainwell finished second at Shamrock Hills at 158, followed closely by Vicksburg (159) and Edwardsburg (160).

Individually, Otsego's Karson Holladay and Plainwell's Drew Rayman tied for medalist honors with a 35.

In the jamboree at Orchard Hills, Otsego shot a 164 to edge Niles by three strokes.

Shearer earned medalist honors with a 36. Jurian Shaffer (42), Andrew Ballman (42) and Santman (44) also scored for Otsego.

Plainwell's scoring golfers were Rayman at 38. Youngs carded a 44, while Sawyer McCall had a 47. Larsen and Reece Trahan each shot a 50.

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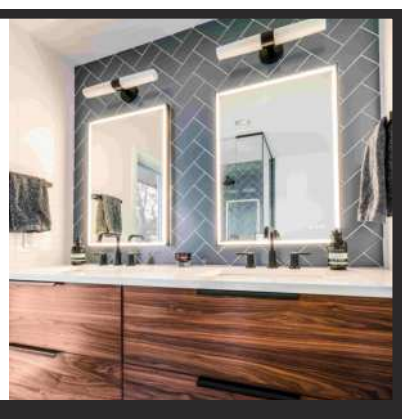

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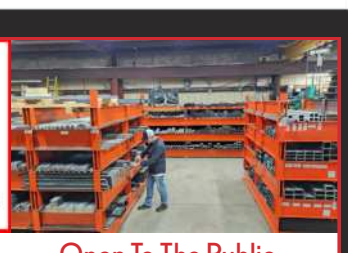

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FOR THE RECORD

PEEK AT THE PAST

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

May 1, 1950

AHS loses second loop ball game: Allegan's baseball team lost its second Tri-County league game Friday afternoon when the Zeeland Chics scored a 3 to 1 victory on their home diamond.

Although the locals outhit the Chics, 5 to 4, their defensive play cost them the game. Zeeland capitalized on two wild pitches, two errors and two stolen bases to score their three runs.

Zeeland tallied in the second inning. Boonstra was safe on Warren DeLano's error. He stole second, moved to third on a single and scored when an attempted pickoff throw was wild for an error.

For the first five innings, the Tigers could collect only two safe blows off the Chic pitcher, Kroll.

In the sixth with one away, Jim Meyer walked, stole second and advanced to third on an error. Miles Hadden, next up, flied out for the second out. Ken VanPatten then came through to score Meyer and break for Allegan. Fran Cook followed suit with a single to left, but both men were left stranded as DeLano popped out to the catcher to end the inning.

May 1, 1975

Wrestlers impress some kids: In the same air that a carnival or circus has about it, the Allegan Rocket League sponsored Big Time Wrestling at the Allegan High School gym last Friday night.

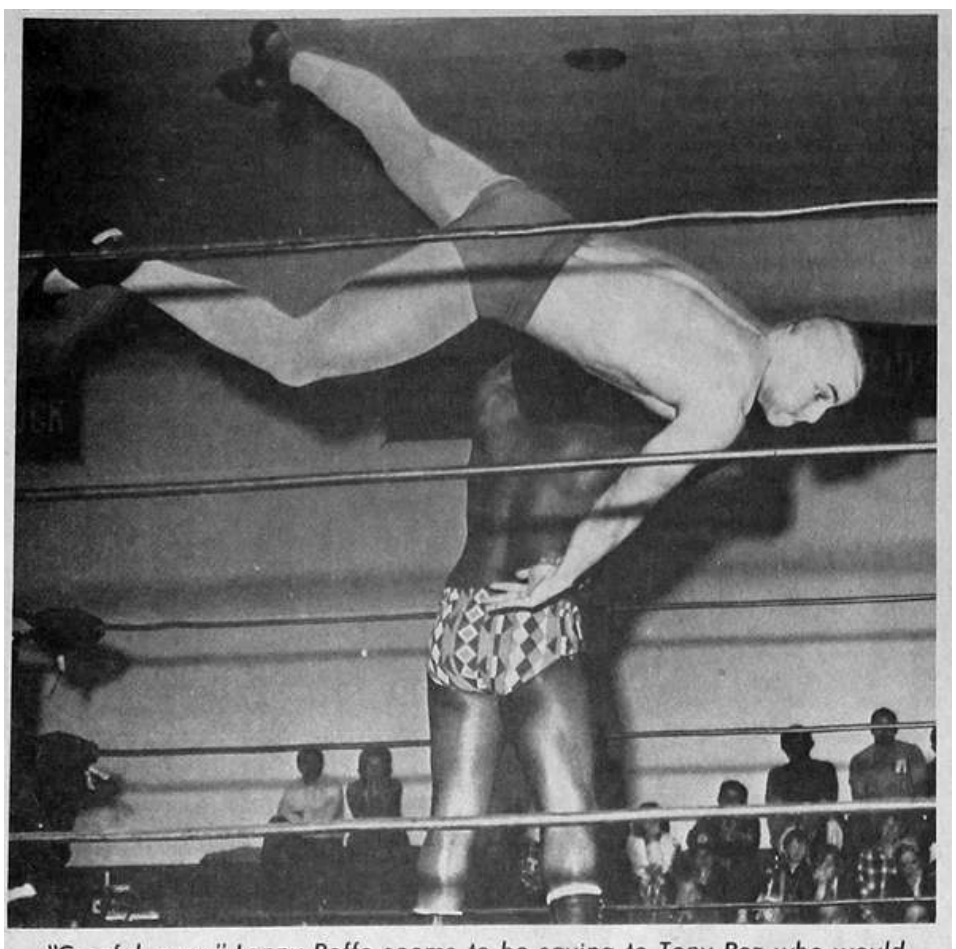
The "sporting event," which netted $500 profit for the Rocket League, allowed such things as kicking, biting and hair pulling, all of which the crowd seemed to enjoy.

The first match featured two fierce gentlemen, one of whom passed out souvenirs before and after the show. The other was in charge of setting up the ring before the show began. They gave the crowd a preview of things to come.

The next match served to split the crowd between cheering for the good guys and the bad guys. In this match, the bad guy—Gary Fultz—won.

Next came an appropriately named lady called Heather Feather, a 300-plus-pound gargantua who came out on top of her match by incorporating a seemingly bone-crushing bear hug that subdued an opponent who weighed in a half her size.

The next match presented Lanny Poffo, who may well have been the only natural athlete in the show. Poffo demonstrated his skills by doing cartwheels in the ring and landing on his feet after being thrown out of the ring a number of times.



"Careful, now," Lanny Poffo seems to be saying to Tony Pez who would like to drop Poffo on his hairless head.

May 4, 2000

County theaters featured in film: Two historic movie theaters in Allegan County will be featured in an documentary to be filmed this spring.

During a three-week journey around the state, a digital video crew of two from Central Michigan University will take a look at the Regent Theatre in Allegan and the Sun Theatre building in Plainwell May 26 and 27. The defunct Sun Theatre now houses the Plainwell Area Chamber of Commerce and merchandise shops.

Documentary producer Kevin Corbett, a Ph.D. on the CMU faculty, plans to create a Public Broadcasting System program one or two hours long about the cultural history, current status and potential future of historic small-town movie houses.

Regent Theatre, Allegan

"These theaters are important for both the communities where they stand and for our culture," he said. "The purpose of this documentary is to draw attention to their historic, social and symbolic value."

Corbett said his academic objective is to study the social and cultural values that surround moviegoing.

"It's a research interest," he said. "These theaters are beginning to disappear. But some towns around the country are finding ways to renovate their theaters.

"My goal is to encourage that as much as possible."

April 30, 2020

Three boys basketball players earn AP All-State recognition: Otsego's Charlie Woodhams and Hopkins' Tyler Zomerlei had a lot in common on the hardwood.

For starters, both were senior leaders for their respective teams this season, with Woodhams helping lift the Bulldogs to their third consecutive Wolverine Conference championship and Zomerlei helping the Vikings secure their first OK Silver championship in 23 years.

Each also emerged as the scoring leader for his team.

It seemed only fitting, then, that these two Allegan County standouts ended their seasons on the same court, as Otsego posted a 66-49 win over Hopkins in a Division 2 district semifinal before the tournament was suspended and ultimately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Woodhams scored a game-best 25 points in the showdown, while Zomerlei netted a team-best 17 points.

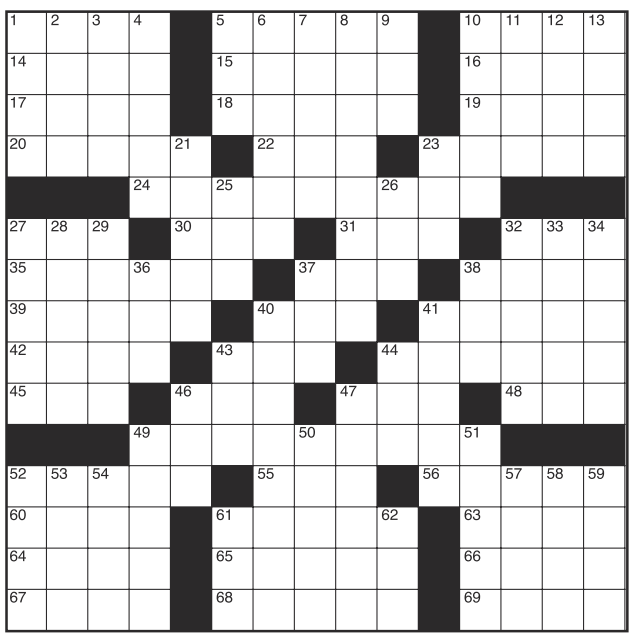
And due to strong performances like that, Woodhams and Zomerlei have something else in common: both were included on the Associated Press Division 2 All-State team.

Woodhams garnered First Team honors, with Zomerlei picking up Honorable Mention recognition.

Martin junior Collin Coburn gave the county a third All-State honoree, as he was included as an Honorable Mention selection in Division 4.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS
1. McCarthy acolyte Roy
5. Ancient Korean chiefdoms
10. Not soft
14. Jai __, sport
15. Philosophy
16. Do what you're told
17. Gaffe
18. Widely known and esteemed
19. Amusement park attraction
20. Popular comic strip Viking
22. Usually has a lid
23. American sportscaster
24. Lung fibrosis
27. General's assistant (abbr.)
30. Pouch
31. Upset
32. Partner to hem
35. Astronomy unit of distance
37. Witch
38. Gradually disappear
39. Regions
40. Possesses
41. Body parts
42. A way to comprehend
43. Defraud
44. Sandwich type
45. Expression of disappointment
46. Popular Dodge truck model
47. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
48. Soviet Socialist Republic
49. Songs to a beloved
52. Custom
55. Partner to cheese
56. West Indies trees
60. Member of a Semitic people
61. Plant that originated vegetatively
63. Squandered one's money
64. Ethiopian river
65. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
66. Acquire by one's efforts
67. Irish goddess
68. Hungarian village
69. Cereal grasses

CLUES DOWN
1. Currency
2. Ceramic jar
3. Reagan's Secretary of State
4. God worshipped in Kanesh
5. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
6. Semitic
7. About blood
8. Benign tumors
9. Move one's head
10. Hours (Spanish)
11. Hebrew calendar month
12. Advise someone
13. Colors clothes
21. The sun does it
23. Concealed
25. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
26. Droop
27. Away from one another
28. Challenges
29. A harsh scraping sound
32. Attaches to a wall
33. Capital of Ethiopia: __ Ababa
34. German river
36. Disappointed
37. Star Wars character Solo
38. Supervises flying
40. Not mass-produced
41. Nonsense
43. Automobile
44. Hogshead (abbr.)
46. Soak in water
47. Flower cluster
49. Romanian city
50. A parent is often one
51. Fencing sword
52. Body part
53. Region
54. Farm building
57. Ali's surname at birth
58. Waxy bird beak covering
59. Stiff bristles
61. VCR button
62. Small amount

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

DEATHS

Feb. 17, 2025
WIESLAW KOZIAL, 64, Clyde Twp.

April 5, 2025
JOHN THOMAS BILTGEN JR, 77, Saugatuck Twp.

April 8, 2025
MARY ELIZABETH HARDY, 88, Monterey Twp.

April 10, 2025
NANCY LOUISE EICHLER OCONNELL, 67, Saugatuck Twp.

April 11, 2025
STANLEY LEONARD WHYMENT, 75, Otsego Twp.

April 13, 2025
JOHN EDWARD SEBESTA, 82, Plainwell
DAVID MICHAEL ZESSIN, 68, Holland

April 14, 2025
CHARLENE ANN TOLHURST, 85, Salem Twp.

April 15, 2025
SHARON DAWN FALES, 79, Valley Twp.
WAYNELL ELIZABETH HAMANN, 48, Allegan Twp.
ELAINE RUTH BIRCE, 93, Holland

April 16, 2025
EVELYN JANE PIANOWSKI, 83, Gun Plain Twp.

April 17, 2025
BETTY JANE MAHIEU, 103, Otsego
JOANNE TUCKER, 91, Clyde Twp.

April 18, 2025
BEVERLY JAYNE WATSON, 75, Allegan Twp.

April 20, 2025
EDWARD ALLEN TRUTSCH, 87, Valley Twp.

MARRIAGES

The following people applied for a marriage license between Aug. 29 and Sept. 6:

JESSICA LYNN TRINKLEIN, Fennville, and **MATTHEW JOSEPH ZAWILA**, Fennville

SARA ELIZABETH DEYOUNG, Plainwell, and **STEVEN PATRICK HEFFRON II**, Ada

RILEY LEE HORTON, Plainwell, and **BROOKLYN JOY DROST**, Plainwell

ASHLEY KAY SUE BLANCHARD, Caledonia, and **JUSTIN JAMES CREW**, Caledonia

JACOB CHARLES BOMELI, Chicago, and **EMILY MARIE MCPHARLIN**, Chicago

GRACE RUTH WEERSTRA, Fennville, and **NATHANIEL MONROE EWART**, GASTONIA, NC

OLIVIA ANN HIGHTOWER, Allegan, and **HUNTER WILLIAM COLLISON**, Dorr

RANDIE AMBER JULIEN, Martin, and **MITCHELL BEKKER MCLAIN**, Martin

AMANDA JODI GLENN, Holland, and **TYLER DAVID BROWN**, Holland

EMILY PAIGE VANDEWALKER, Holland, and **SETH NATHANIEL DURHAM**, EDMOND, OK

SCOTT WILLIAM DRUMM, Dorr, and **JENNIFER GRACE GERMANI**, Dorr

JESSICA ANN DETTLING, Dorr, and **JAMES COLE DAVIS**, HUNTSVILLE, AL

JOHN WESLEY JAMISON, Holland, and **MICHAEL WILLIAM BEASON**, Holland

ANDREA ELIZABETH GALLAGHER, Hopkins, and **DEVIN JAMES RODANHISLER**, Dorr

RONALD WARREN WHEATON, Wayland, and **CINDY SUE VELTHOUSE**, Wayland

HANNAH NOEL KLOK, Otsego, and **BENJAMIN LEVI BARTELS**, Wayland

COLA MARIE EVERIDGE, Wayland, and **STEVEN ALLEN ESSENBURGH**, Wayland

GARY LEE MISAK, Allegan, and **SUSAN DARLENE ROGERS**, Allegan

CASSIDY JOANN REETZ, Plainwell, and **CHARLES WILLIAM FETTERLEY IV**, Plainwell

ANDREW SCOTT PATRCIK WARREN, Shelbyville, and **SARA RENEE TYRRELL**, Shelbyville

KEELIE ALEXANDRA SCHMIDT, Allegan, and **CODY ALAN LENHART**, Allegan

JENNIFER KAY YEAKEY, Wayland, and **SETH ANDREW MEEK**, Wayland

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

4								
5	3	2				9		
		9	5				7	
	9				2	4		
			4	8			5	
2								
					6			4
	7	5	9	2		8		3
8								

(See Solution Page B7)

Public Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Emily Capitano-Kosanke and Steven Kosanke, wife and husband

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

Date of Mortgage: January 29, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 9, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $118,029.81

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Gunplain, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The West 1/2 Lot 28 of Gores Addition and Lot 29 of Gores Addition, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, on Page 27, Allegan County Records.

Common street address (if any): 1053 Bloomfield Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-1505

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: April 10, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1558437

(04-10)(05-01)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Loren K. Sargent, a married man; Rebecca Sargent, a married woman, whose address is 6463 124th, Fennville, Michigan 49408, as original Mortgagors, to THE CIT GROUP/CONSUMER FINANCE, INC., being a mortgage dated October 22, 1998, and recorded on December 14, 1998 in Liber 1798 Page 318, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to The Bank of New York Mellon, the Successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, as Trustee for CIT Home Equity Loan Trust 2002-1, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated October 2, 2020 and recorded on October 13, 2020 in Liber 4522 Page 744, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY THOUSAND FIFTY-SEVEN AND 87/100 DOLLARS ($30,057.87). Said premises are situated in the Township of Saugatuck, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: EAST 1/3 OF THE SOUTH 3/4 OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 EXCEPT THE NORTH 1500 FEET THEREOF. SECTON 34, TOWN 3 NORTH, RANGE 16 WEST, SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP. ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Street Address: 6463 124th, Fennville, Michigan 49408 The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: April 10, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6440

(04-10)(05-01)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on July 3, 2025. The amount due on the Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by PAUL E COMBS and LINDA L COMBS to American Advisors Group dated February 2, 2016 and recorded February 11, 2016 in Liber 4004 at Page 92, Allegan County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Carrington Mortgage Services LLC by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $95,131.08. Said premises are located in Allegan County, Michigan and are described as: All that certain piece or parcel of land situate and lying in the Township of Trowbridge County of Allegan and State of Michigan and described as follows, to-wit: Lot 10 of Maple Bathing Beach, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, Page 51. BEING the same property conveyed to Paul E. Combs and Linda L. Combs by Warranty Deed from Robert F. Knowlton and Sharon J. Knowlton, dated April 14, 1983 and recorded April 18, 1983 at Book 1032, Page 396. Said property is commonly known as 3061 Baseline Road, Gobles, MI 49055. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Please be advised that any third party purchaser is responsible for preparing and recording the Sheriff's Deed. If this is a residential Mortgage, the following shall apply: ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU: ARE A DEBTOR IN AN ACTIVE BANKRUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPTCY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY. Dated: April 11, 2025 Attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage: Thomas E. McDonald (P39312) Brock & Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (844) 856-6646 File No. 25-09544

(04-17)(05-08)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Heidi Sue Smit, an unmarried woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lake Michigan Credit Union

Date of Mortgage: February 10, 2023

Date of Mortgage Recording: February 15, 2023

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $93,589.08

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Holland, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Unit 176, Central Village Condominium No. 4, a Condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 1166, Page 205, Allegan County Records, and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 31, and Amendments thereto, in any, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in the Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended.

Common street address (if any): 46 Old Mill Dr Unit 20, Holland, MI 49423-7704

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: April 17, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1558831

(04-17)(05-08)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Karen J. Allen, a single woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc.

Date of Mortgage: November 2, 2022

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 8, 2022

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $142,811.59

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the center of Section 18, Town 2 North, Range 13 West; thence South 89 degrees 59 minutes 24 seconds East on the East and West 1/4 line of said Section 841.84 feet to the place of beginning of this description; thence South 89 degrees 59 minutes 24 seconds East on said 1/4 line 241.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 12 seconds West 1243.82 feet to the centerline of Babylon Road; thence North 79 degrees 30 minutes 04 seconds West on said centerline 245.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 07 minutes 12 seconds East 1199.21 feet to the place of beginning. Township of Allegan, County of Allegan.

Common street address (if any): 3459 Babylon Rd, Allegan, MI 49010-9220

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: April 17, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1558818

(04-17)(05-08)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

JUDICIAL DISTRICT

48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Allegan COUNTY

SUMMONS

Matthew Antkoviak P-59449

CASE NUMBER 25-70126-CH

Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone number

Lona Sliter and Fred Sliter

Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number

Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132

314 Trowbridge St.

Allegan, M1 45010

269-673-2136

v

Defendant's name, address, and telephone number

JUAN TREVINO, ALICIA TREVINO, JOSE ALFARO SR., JOSE ALFARO JR, CANDELARIO TREVINO; and each of their unknown Hiers, Devisees and Assigns.

Civil Case

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint.

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

1. You are being sued.

2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).

3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

4, If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arraingments

Issue Date: 2/18/25

Expiration date: 05/19/25

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN COUNTY BUILDING,

ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010

File No.: 25-70126-CH

HON. MATTHEW ANTKOVIAK

LONA SLITER and FRED SLITER

Plaintiffs

Vs

JUAN TREVINO, ALICIA TREVINO, JOSE ALFARO SR., JOSE ALFARO JR., CANDELARIO TREVINO; and each of their unknown Hiers, Devisees and Assigns

Defendants

Michael J. Becker P81132

ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239

Allegan, MI 49010

(269) 673-2136

ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Allegan County, Michigan, on 3/25, 2025

Present: Honorable Matthew Antkoviak

Circuit Court Judge

Plaintiffs filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiffs have shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendants by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiffs have demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendants. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(I), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendants actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiffs must serve the Defendants by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.

Matthew Antkoviak P-59449

4-17 5-1

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 15, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Sherry Harrison, a married woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: November 25, 2015 Recorded on December 16, 2015, Liber 3989, on Page 85, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Union Home Mortgage Corp. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Fifty-Nine Thousand Eighty and 18/100 Dollars ($59,080.18) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Lots 168, 169 and 170 of Hardendorf`s Addition, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 22, Allegan County Records. Commonly known as 420 S Grant St, Otsego, MI 49078 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Union Home Mortgage Corp. Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1559224

(04-17)(05-08)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE (Allegan County) NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County (at East front entrance to the Allegan County Building in Allegan County, Michigan.), starting promptly at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on Thursday, June 5, 2025. Default has been made in the terms and conditions of the junior mortgage made by Kerry J. Rodeghero aka Kerry Rodeghero an unmarried person and Dennis Todd Williamson aka Dennis T. Williamson, an unmarried person, as original mortgagors, to The Huntington National Bank, a national banking association, as original mortgagee, dated June 24, 2022, and recorded on July 21, 2022, at the Allegan County, Michigan Register of Deeds, in Liber 4781, commencing on Page 395. The amount claimed to be due on this mortgage, on the date of this notice, was $109,581.57. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The description of the mortgaged premises is all that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Clyde, in the County of Allegan and State of Michigan further described as follows: Lots 1 and 2, MOELLER SUBDIVISION, as recorded in Liber 7, Page 27, of Plats, Allegan County Records Commonly known as: 2341 59th Street, Fennville, MI The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale or when the time to provide the notice required by MCLA 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later or unless the redemption period is shortened in accordance with MCLA 600.3238. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA 600.3278, the borrower and mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Attention Purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Shaheen, Jacobs & Ross, P.C. is a debt collector attempting to collect this debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Dated: April 17, 2025 The Huntington National Bank, a national banking association Mortgagee SHAHEEN, JACOBS & ROSS, P.C. By: Michael J. Thomas, Esq. Attorney for Mortgagee 615 Griswold Street, Suite 1425 Detroit, Michigan 48226-3993 (313) 963-1301

(04-24)(05-15)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

48th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY PROBATE

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION

CASE NO. 25-70137-CH

Court telephone no. (269) 673-0300

Court address 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, Michigan 49010

Plaintiff name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).

FLICKINGER SERVICE, LLC

Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: Robert J. Kinggo III (P68442)

31440 Northwestern Hwy., Ste. 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

248.593.0496

v

Defendant name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).

UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES OR ASSIGNEES OF

LEWIS JAMES FOLK

1491 102nd Ave.

Plainwell, MI 49080-9703

TO: Unknown Heirs, Devisees or Assignees of Lewis James Folk

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued in this court by the plaintiff to quiet title as to property located at 1491 102nd Ave., Plainwell, MI 49080. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 28 days after the date of last publication. yo, fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in €Wspaper that publishes in Allegan County for three consecutive weeks and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

Dated: 4-3-2025

4-24 5-8

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 5, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Tomas Brvenik and Anne L Oxendine, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lake Michigan Credit Union

Date of Mortgage: November 12, 2020

Date of Mortgage Recording: December 8, 2020

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $198,224.30

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Saugatuck, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 22, Town 3 North, Range 16 West, described as: Beginning at a point on the West line of said Section which is South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West

1130.35 feet from the Northwest corner of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 154.05 feet; thence South 89 degrees 18 minutes 13 seconds East 198.00 feet along a line which is North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 25.00 feet from and parallel with the South line of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 154.05 feet; thence North 89 degrees 18-minutes 13 seconds West 198.00 feet to the point of beginning. Saugatuck Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 2955 66th St, Fennville, MI 49408-9642

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: April 24, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1559605

(04-24)(05-15)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m., on June 5, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. Default has occurred in the conditions of a Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made

(Continued on Page B7)

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

by Gerald J. Sisson and Violet C. Sisson, husband and wife, as Mortgagor(s), to United Federal Credit Union, as Mortgagee. The Mortgage is dated April 26, 2018 and was recorded May 4, 2018 at Liber 4243 Page 68 of Allegan County Records. The amount claimed to be due on said Mortgage and unpaid at the date of this Notice is FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FOUR AND 63/100 ($44,184.63) DOLLARS, including interest on the applicable indebtedness at a rate of 5.75% per annum. This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and its related note and which are permitted under Michigan law after the date of this Notice. No legal or equitable proceedings have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, and the power of sale in the Mortgage has become operative by reason of the default. At the date and time as referenced previously in this Notice, the Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property herein described, or some part of them, at public auction, to the highest bidder, for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid on the Mortgage, along with interest due, the legal costs and charges of sale as allowed by statute and/or the Mortgage, and any taxes and insurance that the Mortgagee pays on or prior to the date of said sale. The property mentioned and described in the Mortgage, as located in the Township of Lee, County of Allegan, and State of Michigan, are more particularly described as follows: Lots 30 & 31, Vio Ashdale's Addition, Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat in Liber 4 of Plats, Page 12, Allegan County Records; Address: 5525 Highland Ave., Pullman, MI 49450; Tax Parcel No.: 03-12-760-030-00. together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements, and fixtures, including the affixed manufactured home; all easements, rights of way, streets, roads, alleys, and public places, privileges, and appurtenances, public or private, now or later used in connection with the premises; and all rights to make divisions of the land that are exempt from the platting requirements of all applicable land division or platting acts, as amended from time to time. Attention Purchasers: the foreclosing Mortgagee reserves the right to cancel the sale prior to sale or to rescind this sale at any time. In that event, your damages, if any, will be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. If the mortgaged property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from date of sale, unless the redemption period is shortened pursuant to MCL 600.3241a or MCL 600.3238, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale or as otherwise provided by statute. DATED: April 24, 2025 ANDREW W. BARNES (P70571) BUTZEL LONG P.C. ATTORNEYS FOR UNITED FEDERAL CREDIT UNION 317 Center Street South Haven, MI 49090 269-287-2010

(04-24)(05-15)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on June 5, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Cory L. DeHaan, a Single Man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc Date of Mortgage: September 1, 2015 Date of Mortgage Recording: September 16, 2015 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $133,426.68 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: THAT PART OF THE EAST 2.75 ACRES OF THAT PART OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 17, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, LYING SOUTH OF THE FORMER PERE MARQUETTE, NOW CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC. PROPERTY AND NORTH OF BABYLON ROAD, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE CENTERLINE OF BABYLON ROAD WITH THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SECTION 17 BEING NORTH 00 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 42 SECONDS EAST 505.13 FEET FROM THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 17; THENCE PROCEEDING NORTHWESTERLY ON THE CENTERLINE OF BABYLON ROAD ON A 512.095 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE LEFT 216.80 FEET, HAVING A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 24 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 23 SECONDS AND WHOSE CHORD BEARS NORTH 63 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST 215.18 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 42 SECONDS EAST 209.90 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF THE CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC. PROPERTY; THENCE ON SAID SOUTHERLY LINE SOUTH 71 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 26 SECONDS EAST 203.00 FEET TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SECTION 17; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 42 SECONDS WEST 242.02 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Commonly Known as: 3301 Babylon Rd., Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 04/24/2025 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 312992

(04-24)(05-15)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, Michigan, starting promptly at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon on Thursday, the 5th day of June, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

The mortgage was made by KEITH BUCHHOLZ, a single man ("Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated August 8, 2019, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Allegan County, Michigan on August 13, 2019, as Document No. 2019013541 or Liber 4370, Page 462 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.

As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety and 48/100 Dollars ($179,790.48). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.

The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Township of Ganges, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

The South 40 acres of the North 70 acres of the East 3/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 34, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan, except a strip 1 rod wide off the North side thereof.

And the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 34, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Together with all fixtures, tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances belonging or in any way appertaining to the premises.

Commonly known as: 1270 64th Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408

P.P. #03-07-034-015-01 and 03-07-034-015-02

Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be one (1) year from the date of sale.

If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Dated: May 1, 2025
GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA
Mortgagee
Timothy Hillegonds
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000
26722905
5-1 5-22

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65576-DE and JUDGE Honorable Jolene Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of JEAN M. SMALLA, deceased Date of Birth:*November 19, 1934
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, ESTATE OF JEAN M. SMALLA, died November 6, 2024.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MAUREEN L. EDWARDS, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
McCarty Law Offices, PLC
KAREN A. MCCARTY P36401
200 W. Allegan Street
Otsego, Michigan 49078
(269) 694-6055
MAUREEN L. EDWARDS
14453 N. Boswell Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351
(623) 208-8201

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Trust After Death No Formal Probate
Trust Administration Unsupervised
In the Matter of Marcia J. Broekhuis, Deceased and the Marcia J. Broekhuis Living Trust dated June 28, 2024
Date of Birth: August 3, 1941
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent Marcia J. Broekhuis, who lived at 3986 - 146th Avenue, Holland, Michigan 49423, died on March 26, 2025. She is the settlor or grantor of a trust, the Marcia J. Broekhuis Living Trust dated June 28, 2024.
Creditors of the decedent or the trust are notified that all claims against the decedent or the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Timothy J. Broekhuis at 4139-146th Avenue, Holland, Michigan 49423, or Thomas A. Broekhuis at 867 Bluff Lake Drive, Zeeland, Michigan 49464, as co-trustees, or to the trust's attorney, James A. Donkersloot at 132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230, Zeeland, Michigan 49464, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
April 17, 2025
Donkersloot Law Office
James A. Donkersloot, P-30433
132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230
Zeeland, MI 49464
(616) 772-9000
Timothy J. Broekhuis, Co-Trustee
4139-146th Avenue
Holland, MI 49423
(616) 594-8028
Thomas A. Broekhuis, Co-Trustee
867 Bluff Lake Drive
Zeeland, MI 49464
(616) 218-3875

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65575-DE and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of John D. Lorence, a/k/a John David Lorence Date of Birth:*12/31/1949
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, John D. Lorence, a/k/a John David Lorence, died 01/01/2025 .
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Sandra K. Lorence, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
04/24/2025
Kenneth W. Doss P12905
192 West 33rd Street
Holland, MI 49423
616-396-9793
Sandra K. Lorence
4641 Graystone Road
Holland, MI 49423
616-723-4807

STATE OF MICHIGAN
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION
Allegan COUNTY
NOTICE OF HEARING
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
FILE NO. 24-69621-AY
Hon. Jolene A. Clearwater
In the matter of Owen Michael Sope, adoptee
TO: Daniel Levi McCormick II
Address Unknown
TAKE NOTICE: On Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 11:30am. in the Family/Probate courtroom, Allegan County Courthouse - 113 Chestnut Street Allegan MI 49010, before Hon. Jolene A, Clearwater, Probate/Family Court Judge a hearing will be held on the PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. The law provides that you should be notified of this hearing. If you fail to appear at this hearing YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE TERMINATED.
If you choose to attend this hearing and you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.
4-24-2025
Christopher T, Antkoviak P5944
416 Hubbard Street
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-8468
Lindsey L. Boelman
2654 103rd Avenue
Allegan, MI 49010
269-680-1275

Notice to Creditors
Janet L. Mosher's Estate
Estate of Janet L. Mosher
Date of Birth: October 06, 1946
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Janet L. Mosher, 4867 132nd Avenue, Hamilton, MI 49419, Allegan County, Michigan died March 12, 2025.
Creditors of Janet L. Mosher are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to: Kenneth R. Mosher, Trustee of the Mosher Family Trust, u/a/d October 19, 2017, care of Carrier Law, P.C., 4965 East Beltline Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49525 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
April 17, 2025
David L. Carrier P41531.
4965 East Beltline Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
(616) 361-8400
Kenneth R. Mosher
4867 132nd Avenue
Hamilton, MI 49419
(313) 318-9248

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 05, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Randall Overweg and Dee Ann Overweg, husband and wife Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: August 21, 2023 Recorded on September 5, 2023, in Document No. 2023012709, Liber 4883, on Page 318, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Union Home Mortgage Corp. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Four and 96/100 Dollars ($284,434.96) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Part of the East half of the Southwest 1/4 Section 16, Town 3 North, Range 14 West, Heath Township, Allegan County, Michigan described as beginning at the South 1/4 corner of Section 16 and proceeding thence along the South line of Section 16 due West 233.52 feet; thence along the centerline of an existing road North 05 degrees 28 minutes 57 seconds West 275.10 feet; thence South 89 degrees 39 minutes 42 seconds East 264.26 feet; thence along the North and South 1/4 line South 00 degrees 56 minutes 13 seconds West 272.31 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 4399 130th Ave, Hamilton, MI 49419 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Union Home Mortgage Corp. Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1560517
(05-01)(05-22)

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C	O	H	N		M	A	H	A	N		H	A	R	D
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Yard Services

Mowing Service/ Spring Cleanup. Call for estimate. 269-760-1277 , kbronkconstruction@gmail.com

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RELIGION SECTION

Do you remember the fable of Chicken Little. The basic story is that a chicken was hit on the head by an acorn, then began shouting to everyone around him that the sky was falling. Soon, all of the other animals were petrified that the end was coming.

For hundreds, if not thousands of years, we have been worried that the end was soon upon us. It has happened several times during our lifetime. In the 1940s, we thought the world was coming to an end because of the atomic bomb. In the 1960s, the end was fast upon us because of Russia and the Cuban Missile Crisis. In 1999, it was Y2K - all the computers would shut down, planes would fall out of the sky, and electricity would stop flowing. The next decade we were warned that the Mayan Long Calendar was about to end and the world would end with it. No one noticed that the MLC ran its course over several hundred years, came to an end, and the next day started over. This time would be no different. The calendar completed its course, the world did not come to an end, and the new long calendar began the following morning.

A number of Christians are seemingly almost obsessed with the "End Times" that will see the Second Coming of Jesus and the end life as we know it. What adds to the conversation is the uncertainly and many different interpretations of precisely what will happen, and when. For example, immediately after the death of Pope Francis, the end-time proponents announced that the Fifth Seal from the Book of Revelation had been broken, and the end was all the closer.

Before Jesus ascended into heaven he promised to come again. Ever since that time we have been watching and waiting, and many followers have been looking for the signs of the end.

To learn all we can about as much of our faith is always a good thing. However, too much obsessing about the End Times tilts our focus away from the more challenging issues of today. If our thoughts and hearts are on all of the joys of eternal life in heaven, we are less likely to see the poverty of mind, body, soul, and spirit all around us. I think we should also remember that you and I live in the present moment, as do all other people around us. To never address their concerns and needs goes against what St James taught. He wrote that it was useless to tell a hungry man to 'have faith,' and do nothing for that person. Rather, feed the person first (i.e. take care of whatever their needs might be) and then share your faith with him or her.

Too much God-talk and lectures on faith is not always helpful; too much care and compassion without sharing one's faith is not helpful, either. It takes a balance, and to find that balance requires careful and prayer spiritual discernment.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomingdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:30 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

M-40 North Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Nathan Strom
Church: 673-4412

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Pastor Alan Carson
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
10976 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal M.I. Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

Restoration Christian Community
Live service 10:00 am Sundays
RestorationChristianCommunity.org
Pastor Austin T Kreutz
269 567 8330

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

The River Flows with Hope and Healing
1652 M-40 North, Allegan
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488
RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157
Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352
Allegan Eyecare Complete Eye Care for the Entire Family 123 Locust St., Allegan 673-5100 • 1-800-797-4351 www.alleganeyecare.com
LEGG LUMBER & Hardware Where the Builders Go! We deliver 730 River St., Allegan 269.673.4470 www.legglumber.com
NAPA AUTO PARTS 1513 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 269-673-3080
Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc 892 34th St., Allegan 269-673-2309 Fax: 269-686-8508 tedsab1@gmail.com
A&A ANTKOVIAK & ANTKOVIAK PC For all your legal services 416 Hubbard St, Allegan • (269) 673-8468 antkoviak@frontier.com
Furniture Mattress Appliance COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE Your Complete Home Furnishing Store! 212 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI (269) 686-1155 8337 M-140 Hwy., South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net
God Integrity Vision Encouragement He Opens People's Eyes www.HOPKINSPROPANE.com
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BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Cheri Sleeman Schulz Associate Broker, REALTOR 269-720-4735 cherischulz@bhhsmi.com 430 Western Avenue, Allegan